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TODAY

# THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,617 THURSDAY JUNE 27 1996

**THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT**

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**WANTED**

MD 150K  
Personnel 100K  
Marketing 85K  
Directors 65K

TOP JOBS SECTION 2

## England pay the final penalty

By JOHN GOODBODY AND ADRIAN LEE

ENGLAND slithered out of the European football championship amid frustration and profound disappointment last night, when Germany won their Wembley semi-final on penalties.

On a night of intense drama, England were deprived of victory in the cruellest possible fashion. After the first five players from each side had scored from their penalties, Gareth Southgate had his shot saved by Andreas Koeckle. Andy Moller then scored to give Germany victory. The two teams had finished 1-1 after extra time.

The result was a massive blow to Terry Venables in what proved to be his last game as England coach, and Germany will now meet the Czech Republic, surprise winners in the other semi-final over France, in the final at Wembley on Sunday.

The most celebrated sports event to be staged in Britain since England's 4-2 World



England players and supporters celebrating after Alan Shearer (arms raised) headed the first goal last night to consolidate his position as the tournament's top scorer

### All quiet on the West End front

By STEPHEN FARRELL, KATHRYN KNIGHT AND JOANNA BALE

ENGLAND'S rush-hour streets and railway stations emptied into pubs and living rooms last night as an estimated 20 million viewers gathered in front of their televisions to watch the Euro 96 semi-final.

By 7.30pm, a calm descended on the thoroughfares of London, punctuated by shouts and cheers from pubs full of workers who had secured an early exit from the office to save their viewing seats.

If you could not see the match, you could hear it on radios, blaring commentary from taxis sporting red and white streamers, newsagents and pizza parlours.

On The Strand, normally packed bumper-to-bumper by 7.30 on a weekday night, a few lonely looking cars whizzed past. At the Adelphi Theatre, showing *Sunset Boulevard*, returns were snapped up by American and Australian tourists.

In the City, even the Tube was quiet as workers left in packs at 5.30 and went straight to the nearest pub. Gavin Race, a 25-year-old banker, said, "Most of the managers left for 'meetings' at 4 o'clock to check out France v Czechoslovakia. The underlings had to stay behind but we were out on the dot at 5.30."

Pubs reported a roaring trade, offering half time snacks bookable before the match.

At Wembley, fans left the championships when rain stopped play for half an hour at 6pm and never returned. Screens at the All England Club relayed tennis matches and results as usual, while announcers were briefed not to mention the football score.



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Cup victory over West Germany in 1966, seemed to bring the country to a standstill as an estimated 26 million television viewers watched the game at home or in pubs which had laid on a celebratory evening.

The match is expected to have been a record for any sports event televised in Britain, breaking the previous highest figure of 25.2 million, when England met West Germany in the World Cup semi-final in Turin in 1990, when England lost on a penalty shoot-out.

Viewers included the Prime Minister - who was hoping for a "thumping England win" - and Prince William - all boys at Eton were given special permission to watch last night. Engineers at the

National Grid in Wokingham also watched to adjust the electricity supply to cope with the sudden surge.

Among the celebrities who arrived at Wembley through the North London traffic jams, were Pele and Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State. Both had bodyguards to escort them to their seats.

The vibrant 76,000-strong crowd was rewarded with a evenly-balanced game, which was perfectly in the historical

context of the sharply-edged matches between the two countries.

England had got exactly the start they wanted: a goal after only three minutes. Alan Shearer headed home his fifth goal of the tournament after Tony Adams had flicked a Paul Gascoigne corner into the goalmouth. However, the Germans, who were without their first-choice strikers Jurgen Klinsmann and Fredi Bobic through injury, equal-

ised after 16 minutes when Stefan Kuntz outstripped Stuart Pearce to convert a curling cross from defender Thomas Helmer.

England dominated the pace of the game and came desperately close to scoring several times in extra time, particularly when Darren Anderton hit the post.

Despite the fervour of the occasion, there were no early reports of trouble between rival supporters, who had

clashed so often when the tournament was held in Germany in 1988. The Metropolitan Police reported only ten arrests, none of them for violence. However, the Euro 96 Intelligence Unit also arrested a German tourist as he was preparing to resell 300 seats in his London hotel.

Tours were asking up to £300 for a £50 seat before the game.

The Czech Republic upset France in the other semi-final, which was played in front of

43,877 spectators at Old Trafford yesterday afternoon. France, winners of the tournament in 1984 and unbeaten in their previous 27 international matches, lost on a penalty shoot-out after the two teams had drawn 0-0 after extra time.

The Czechs had not been expected to beat the French, let alone to reach the final. They had been 80-1 outsiders to win the championship earlier this month and now face the pre-tournament favourites.

## Support for the Tories hits three-year peak

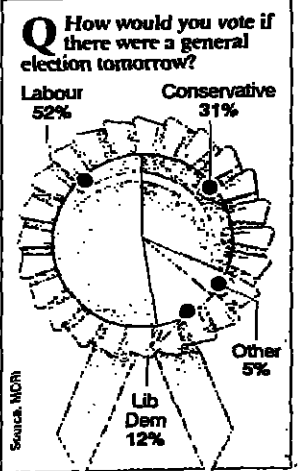
By PETER RIDDELL

ENGLAND'S Euro 96 victory over Spain last Saturday was followed by a sharp rise in support for the Conservatives to the highest level for three years, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*.

The poll, undertaken over last weekend, puts the Tories on 31 per cent, up four points on last month. Labour has slipped two points to 52 per cent, with the Liberal Democrats dropping three to 12 per cent. However, MORI's breakdown of the figures shows that Tory support was 29 per cent on Friday and Saturday, rising to 33 per cent after the quarter-final.

The Labour lead over the Tories has now narrowed from 27 to 21 points, its lowest level since Tony Blair was elected Labour leader, although Mr Blair's personal rating has not declined.

The MORI economic optimism index - its "feel-good" indicator - is now at its highest level since August 1994, the Government's approval rating is its best since August 1992 and John Major's personal approval rating is the highest since January 1993 - although all are still in minus numbers.



## Saudis put up £1.75m reward

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

SAUDI ARABIA yesterday offered an unprecedented reward of \$2.7 million (£1.75 million) for information leading to the capture of the terrorists responsible for Tuesday night's truck bomb, which killed at least 19 American servicemen and injured hundreds more.

Middle East diplomats said it was the largest reward ever put up in an attempt to solve a terrorist attack. Although there was no immediate claim of responsibility, the perpetrators are thought to have been Islamic fundamentalists opposed to western influence in the kingdom. President Weizman of Israel claimed that Iran was involved.

G7 vow, page 14  
Leading article, page 19

## Journalist killed in 'revenge' shooting

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

AN IRISH woman journalist investigating drug barons and the Dublin underworld was shot dead yesterday in a gangland-style killing.

It is believed that Veronica Guerin, 33, an award-winning reporter with the *Sunday Independent*, was killed by criminals she had written about.

Ms Guerin, who was married with a six-year-old son, was returning from a court case at lunchtime yesterday. As she stopped at traffic lights on the outskirts of Dublin two men on a motorbike with false plates pulled up beside her. The pillion passenger got off the bike and shot at her through the driver's window. She died almost immediately.

Police said she was murdered by professionals but ruled out any paramilitary involvement. They were yesterday searching for a south Dublin gang.

Most of her work focused on Dublin criminals involved in drugs and major theft. She described their work, family life and personal finance.

In 1994, she wrote about a man named The Monk and his involvement in a £3 million robbery, the largest in the Irish Republic. Shortly after the article she was shot in the leg by a masked intruder who burst into her home. She has also written in detail about a south Dublin figure called The Walrus who is one of the top five drug dealers in the country.

Angus Fanning, the editor of the *Sunday Independent*, said Ms Guerin had refused 24-hour police protection after the 1995 shooting.

"She insisted on her freedom to do her job. Armed only with her pen, that is what she set out to do," Mr Fanning said.

Dogged investigator, page 2  
Obituary, page 21

**MATCH POINT**

**OPENING SERVICE**

WIMBLEDON TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS 26 June-7 July  
ROUND THE ISLAND RACE, ISLE OF WICK 29 June  
YOUNG CHIEFTAIN GOLD CUP FOLD, CONWAY PARK 29 June-21 July  
HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA 3-7 July  
3RD CORNWALL TEST MATCH V INDIA, TRENT BRIDGE 4-9 July  
HAMPTON COURT PALACE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW 9-14 July  
BAYVIEW GRAND PRIX, SILVERSTONE 14 July  
GLORIOUS GOODWOOD 20 July-3 August  
COVERS WEEK 3-10 August  
SILK CUT DEBBY, HICKEYTOWN 15-18 August

**Veve Clicquot**  
CHAMPAGNE OF THE SEASON

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# Bickering brothers in arms stage nightmarish preview of devolution

A nightmare preview of the parliamentary years the locusts will eat, if or when a Labour Government tries to bring in Scottish devolution, occurred yesterday afternoon at the Commons.

It was 5.30. On a Point of Order Michael Martin (Lab, Springburn) raised a complaint about a fellow Scot, Alex Salmond (SNP, Banff & Buchan) and two members of the Scottish National Party, which Salmond leads. The nationalist trio had apparently turned up for a meeting of a

Scottish Standing Committee on a Scottish Education bill and, though they were not members of it, refused to leave.

Tony Newton, leader of the House, moved a motion empowering the chairman of the committee to remove such people and a short debate followed in which embarrassed and angry Scots Labour MPs ganged up with government MPs to squish the SNP, easily winning the vote which followed.

But Alex Salmond, the leader of the Scottish National

Party, who started by implying that as a Scot he took no interest in the England-Germany semi-final, made an impassioned and part-convincing speech.

The point he and fellow-protesters were making was a simple one, he said: several MPs for English constituencies sat on the Scottish Standing Committee, yet the legislation it was examining related only to Scotland. Why should English MPs be deciding Scottish matters?

"It's an affront," said Salmond, "that people who



MATTHEW PARRIS  
POLITICAL SKETCH

are not qualified to do so, should be allowed to debate and decide. "Why involve English MPs in 'specifically Scottish matters'?"

"Because it's our money!" shouted Peter Luff (C, Worcester), referring to the subsidy which English MPs insist that Scotland as a whole enjoys from the Treasury.

Throughout what followed,

Scots MPs sniped at each other in an often personal way. George Foulkes (Lab, Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley) accused SNP members of failing to pull their weight on committees, while Salmond insisted that he did volunteer. Salmond insisted that his party's logic was consistent: their MPs never voted on specifically English matters,

he said: "We don't interfere in English business." There followed an ill-tempered dispute over why, in that case, the SNP had voted on English nursery school provision.

And the debate spluttered angrily on. For much of the time it took the aspect of an internal dispute between Scots, with English MPs looking on with ill-concealed amusement, intervening mischievously to stir things up. Labour's front bench appeared dismayed and irritated. Ann Taylor, the Shadow Leader of the House, said that

SNP behaviour was "juvenile".

But nobody challenged Salmond's twice-made assertion that the participation of English MPs in Scottish affairs was "a running sore". Rightly or wrongly, it has been. And nobody challenged the logic of Salmond's contention that if English MPs were to be banned from Scottish business, then Scots MPs should keep out of English business.

Under the Opposition's plans for a devolved Scottish Parliament, English MPs will

be banned from Scottish business. For this sketchwriter the second half of Mr Salmond's conjunction hung in the air. Half way through the debate, Labour's Tam Dalyell, previously MP for West Lothian (now for Linlithgow) drifted in, sat down, and watched silently.

Like Banquo's ghost, Dalyell, whose "West Lothian Question" — Salmond's conjunction — helped to wreck the last Labour Government's devolution plans, haunted us: a baleful portent of things to come.

## Labour softens tax powers of Scots' national assembly

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR will pledge today to let the people of Scotland decide if they want their own parliament and whether it should have tax-raising powers. In a policy shift, George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, will announce that the party will hold a referendum in the first months of a Labour government.

But, in a bid to defuse the Tory campaign against Labour's "Tartan tax", the referendum will also seek a mandate for any tax-raising powers. It will pose two questions: "Do you want to have a Scottish Parliament?" and "Do you think it should have tax-raising powers?"

The plan was attacked by Labour MPs, who claimed that they had not been consulted about a scheme which "flew in the face of existing policy".

John Major revised a speech on the constitution last night to accuse Labour of "retreating and dodging" the argument. "The Opposition wriggle and turn to try to avoid answering the questions that expose the folly of their plans," he said.

Tony Blair hopes to wrongfoot Mr Major by getting the biggest possible public backing for a Scottish Parliament and making it more difficult for a future government to reverse the plans. He is confident that the

Scotts will overwhelmingly support devolution.

But the decision to let the Scots decide if their parliament should have the power to raise or cut taxes by 3p — which is current Labour policy — is a significant softening of the party's position.

Over the past six months a committee of senior front-benchers, including Mr Robertson, and Donald Dewar, the Shadow Chief Whip, has been mulling over the best way of watering down a long-standing, but potentially damaging, policy. Mr Dewar confirmed last night that the vote would be for Scots only and would be won or lost on a simple majority.

The Labour leadership has recently made clear that tax-raising powers would not be used in the first parliament. But Mr Blair is determined to stop the Tories exploiting the issue by insisting that the parliament would have no tax-raising powers if the Scottish people decided against it.

He is expected to ally any fears that Labour intends to break up the United Kingdom when he speaks in Edinburgh on Friday. He will also confirm that the party plans a referendum on a Welsh assembly.

Last night Scottish Labour MPs demanded a meeting with Mr Robertson so that he would explain the new policy,

which had not been discussed by the Shadow Cabinet. George Galloway, Labour MP for Hillhead, said: "I'm very angry about it. In common with a very large number of my colleagues, there has been no consultation about it. It flies utterly in the face of our existing policy."

Many MPs feared that the new proposal was a signal that Mr Blair intended to delay or ditch the plans altogether. But Mr Robertson insisted: "There will be no slippage. There will be no delay. There will be no obstructionism and there will be no alteration to the firm commitment to delivering the legislation on a Scottish Parliament in the first year of a Labour government."

"We want to make sure that the Scottish parliament we create is going to be secure, will have a long life and will be safe from the predatory instincts of some right-wing Tory who might come in." The Liberal Democrats yesterday appeared to back away from their opposition to a referendum on devolution. While both Paddy Ashdown, the leader, and Jim Wallace, the party's Scottish spokesman, emphasised that they favoured securing popular consent through a general election, they refused to say whether or not they would support Labour's move.

## Wimbledon title goes to rank outsider

By ALAN HAMILTON

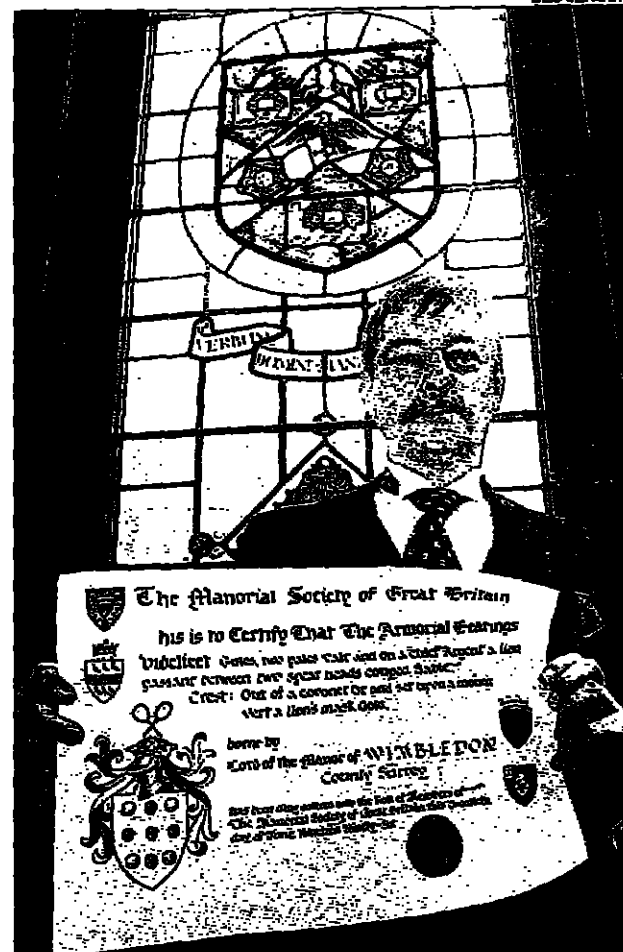
AN anonymous telephone bidder yesterday paid £188,000 for the lordship of the manor of Wimbledon, an ancient title which has nothing to do with tennis.

Pointedly sold during Wimbledon fortnight, and with several leading players including Boris Becker rumoured to be among the would-be purchasers, the title was offered by Earl Spencer, brother of the Princess of Wales, to help pay for essential repairs at the family seat of Althorp, Northamptonshire.

The price — £171,000 before buyer's premium and more than three times its pre-sale estimate — far exceeds the previous record of £110,000 paid by an American for the lordship of the manor of Stratford-upon-Avon.

Lordships, which come with no money or lands, and only occasionally the most vestigial feudal rites, are now common currency at auction as the aristocracy unloads its unwanted baggage. Wimbledon was sold in ten minutes of bidding between two telephone hopefuls in the suitably manorial setting of Stationers' Hall, a City livery company. Robert Smith, the auctioneer, played to the packed house by wearing a wing collar.

Bidding, which was between two agents, opened at £25,000, and climbed sometimes in £100 steps and sometimes in thousands, until the agent in the brown suit on the



Robert Smith, who conducted the auction

mobile phone gave way to the man in a black suit on the terrestrial phone. Mr Smith, who also represents the Manorial Society of Great Britain, which promotes lordships of the manor, conceded afterwards that he thought it would go for £100,000.

The lordship of Wimbledon dates from the Domesday Book of 1086. It was seized by Henry VIII at the Dissolution of the Monasteries, sold to a director of the South Sea Company in the 18th century, and when that bubble burst, was bought by Sarah Churchill, wife of the first Duke of Marlborough, who left it to the Spencer family in 1744.

The new owner of the lordship may style him or herself Lord of Wimbledon, or Lord of the Manor of Wimbledon, and may even put the title in his or her passport. But he or she owns nothing, cannot call him or herself Lord, cannot expect a seat in the Lords, cannot wear ermine, and definitely cannot expect any favours from the All England Club.

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Sport, pages 40, 41

## Portillo under fire over sale of service quarters

By MICHAEL EVANS AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

MICHAEL PORTILLO was facing one of his toughest challenges since becoming Defence Secretary as he tried to persuade sceptical Tory backbenchers yesterday to support his plan to sell 60,000 service married quarters.

He summoned a hastily arranged press conference at the Ministry of Defence to explain why he was determined to continue with the sale, despite more than 60 Tory MPs signing a Commons motion demanding further consultation with service families and final approval from both Houses.

With four bids already in from interested consortiums and the decision on the winning bid due to be announced in the first week of August, Mr Portillo made it clear that he could not afford any further delays. He conceded that a small number of MPs had "deep reservations", but claimed that most of the 65 who signed a critical Commons motion had done so because they needed further explanation.

However, fellow ministers conceded that he might have to water down the proposals to win backbench support. One said: "There's no question of dropping it, but it may have to be more attractive." One option is to increase the amount being spent on refurbishing and improving married quarters above the £100 million promised by John Major on Tuesday.

More than a dozen MPs have already withdrawn their names from the Commons motion. Some have been persuaded to do so after being promised a Commons debate. However, headline Tory critics of the scheme insisted that they would support the plans only if there was full consultation and if a debate was followed by a formal vote. They criticised Mr Portillo for taking an aggressive stance after he said it would be "irresponsible" to back down.

Government sources have suggested that the campaign, backed by many of John Redwood's supporters, is being co-ordinated by the former Cabinet minister in an effort to embarrass Mr Portillo. Mr Redwood has dismissed the suggestion. Mr Portillo said that the £1.6 billion expected from the sale had been taken into account as part of the Government's overall financial strategy. Apart from the damage an aborted sale would do to the Chancellor's ability to introduce tax cuts before the general election, MOD sources said there were fears that impending procurement contracts could be affected.

A series of defence orders are due to be announced over the next few weeks. They include a £650 million contract for an air-launched conventionally armed stand-off missile and a £725 million anti-armour weapon.

## Competition to rebuild bombed city

Ideas for rebuilding Manchester city centre are to be thrown open to an international competition, Michael Heseltine said yesterday. The Deputy Prime Minister, on a visit to see the extent of the damage, said the IRA bomb had produced a "perhaps unique" chance to build a city for the 21st century.

After touring the shattered shopping and business centre and talking to civic leaders, Mr Heseltine told a news conference: "There will be an international competition to provide a range of ideas for an innovative concept and I have agreed that we in central government will help to finance that competition."

Hundreds of thousands of London commuters face disrupted journeys to work today as striking Underground train drivers threaten to bring the network to a standstill.

A one-day stoppage by 2,000 Aslef drivers could inflict the worst transport disruption on the capital for seven years, although London Transport hopes to run a limited service. Aslef union leaders ordered the action in a dispute about working hours.

## Renewed hope in postal dispute

A second postal strike will go ahead from noon today but hopes of resolving the dispute were raised yesterday when union leaders decided against calling further walkouts.

Alan Johnson, joint general secretary of the Communication Workers Union, said he hoped a period of calm reflection would allow a settlement to be achieved. He said negotiations with the Royal Mail earlier this week had been useful.

## Mental patients increase by half

The number of people compulsorily admitted to psychiatric hospital over the past five years has risen by 55 per cent, Government figures showed yesterday. There was also a 29 per cent rise in voluntary admissions and a three-fold rise for private mental nursing homes.

The Department of Health statistics showed the number of formal admissions to all facilities rose from 17,400 in 1989-90 to 27,100 in 1994-95.

## Airline collapse blamed on media

Excalibur Airways, the charter airline whose passengers refused to fly to Florida this week on a 23-year-old DC-10 delayed by a series of technical problems, went into liquidation last night.

Liquidators Deloitte and Touche blamed "sensationalised media coverage" of the delays for the collapse, which has stranded hundreds of passengers who were due to fly out today.

Travel, pages 22, 23

## Reporter paid high price for dedication

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE award-winning Irish journalist shot dead in Dublin yesterday uncovered some of the country's most notorious criminals.

Veronica Guerin, 33, nicknamed most of her subjects as a way of getting around the libel laws. By using names such as The Monk and The Walrus, she was able to go into detail about the men, their families and their finances.

Most of her work concentrated on Dublin men dealing in drugs, although she has written on the IRA. Last Sunday she wrote that a Dublin IRA member sanctioned the robbery in Adare, Co Limerick, in which the policeman Jerry McCabe was shot dead.

Much of what she wrote landed her in trouble. Last December she was shot in the right thigh by a masked man who called at her cottage in Cloughran, Co Dublin. Guerin and detectives believe a Dublin criminal she exposed was responsible.

Shots were fired at her house on a number of occasions and last year she was beaten up when she went to interview a known criminal in Killybegs, Co Londonderry. She persisted with her reports, rejecting

suggestions that she was a target. "I don't feel that I did anything differently to what any other journalist has done," she said shortly after the shooting last year.

Numerous death threats have been made to other Dublin journalists, including those at the Irish Times, Sunday World and the Star.

Ms Guerin trained as an accountant. She entered journalism six years ago after a brief period as a researcher with Fianna Fail, the Opposition party. She worked with the Sunday Business Post and the Sunday Tribune before joining the Sunday Independent. She seldom worked from the newsroom, preferring instead to work alone. She had a good working relationship with the police.

Sam Smyth, a colleague, said she was completely dedicated. "She really, really enjoyed her work. I have never seen anybody get as much fun out of work."

Last year she was awarded the International Press Freedom Award from the International Committee to Protect Journalists. She was married to Graham Turley, a construction worker. They had one child, Cathal, aged seven.

## More primary pupils in big classes

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST a third of primary school pupils are being taught in classes of over 30 after a big increase in sizes over last year.

Twenty per cent more children are in groups bigger than 35, while the number in classes of 31 or more has risen by 9 per cent to 1.26 million, according to government figures disclosed yesterday.

Teachers claimed the figures showed the impact of the Government's squeeze on local authority budgets in recent years. A survey for the National Union of Teachers showed 9,000 teachers were made redundant in the summer term last year.

In primary schools, the number of students in classes

of 31 or more rose by 17 per cent to 234,800, while those in groups of 36 or more fell from 4,300 to 3,400, according to the 1996 provisional figures for England published by the Department for Education and Employment.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the NUT, said: "This is the sixth year running that class sizes have deteriorated. This Government cannot claim it is interested in standards while it reduces opportunities for every child by allowing this situation to worsen." Education was not being properly funded.

A spokesman for the department echoed the views of Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, who said earlier this year that class size had little impact on the quality

of education. The spokesman added: "The number of primary school children in classes over 35 is 90,000 lower than in 1979. There are less very small classes now which has kept down the average in the past."

He said several factors accounted for recent rises, including local authority decisions on how to split funding between primary and secondary schools and parents sending their children to popular schools.

The figures show the percentage of all primary school children in classes of 31 or above rose from 26.1 in 1986 to 31.8 this year. The average primary class size is now 27.3 children, compared with 25.5 in 1986.

The average secondary school class size has remained

fairly static over ten years, rising slightly from 20.6 to 21.6 pupils. Although the number of secondary pupils in large classes has shown an annual rise, it is three-quarters of the total in 1986.

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FORENAMES

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TEL HOME BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL PERSON TO BE COVERED

ADULT PARTNER (NAME)

DATE OF BIRTH

NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18

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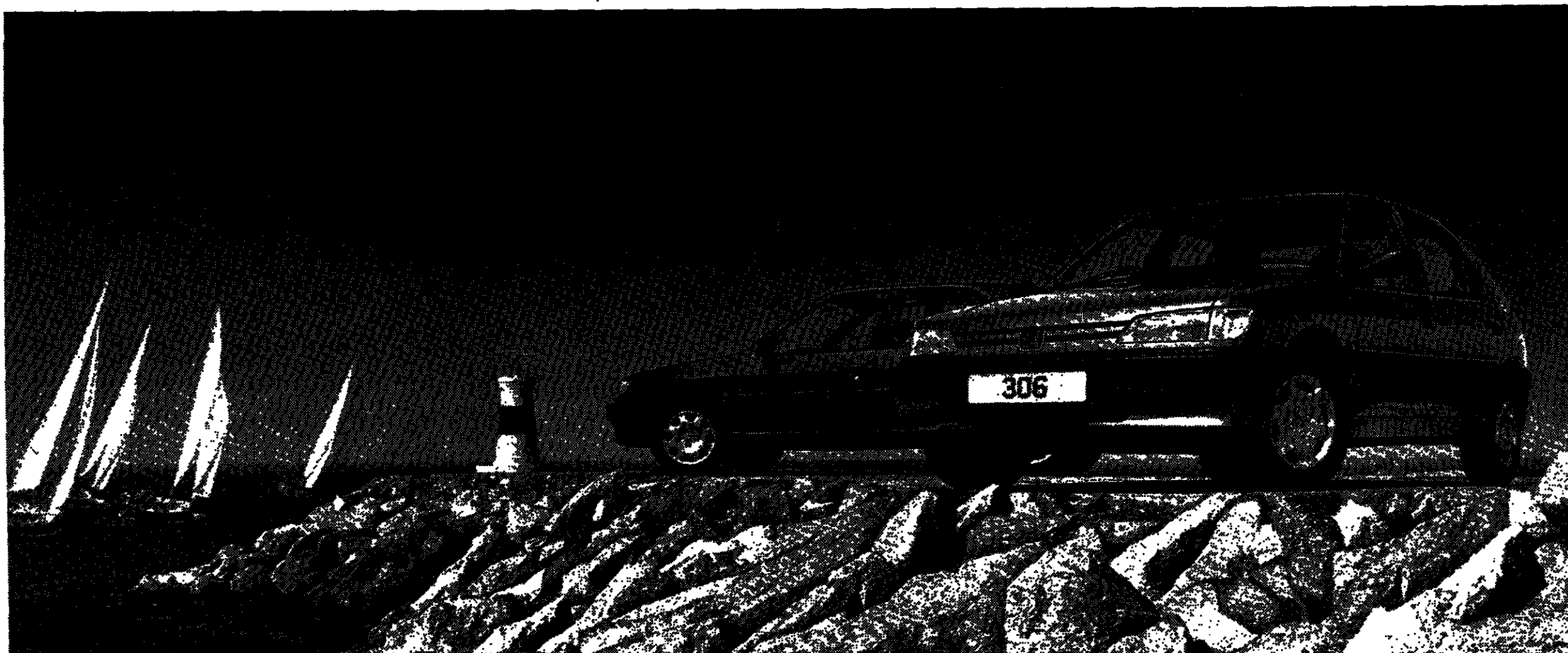
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مكتبة الأمل



## Little girl 'murdered at end of a perfect day'

By KATE ALDERSON

A GIRL aged seven, abducted from a tent in her uncle's garden after spending a perfect summer's day with her family, was murdered in a crime "which almost defies belief", a court was told yesterday.

Sophie Hook had travelled with her family to Llandudno in North Wales last July to celebrate her cousin's ninth birthday with a family barbecue, games of charades and a camp fire.

Chester Crown Court was told that a "glorious hot summer's day" ended with Sophie camping with her sister and cousin in the fenced back garden of her uncle, Danny Jones's house, Gerard Elias, QC, for the prosecution, said the small girl — she was 4ft 11in tall — had settled down for the night in her sleeping bag when Howard Hughes stole into the tent and took her.

The 31-year-old unemployed gardener strangled her and threw her body in the sea, Mr Elias said. Mr Hughes, a single man who lived with his mother in Colwyn Bay, denies raping and murdering the child in the early hours of Sunday, July 30.

Mr Elias said: "These atrocities reveal a depth of wickedness and depravity and whoever perpetrated them almost defies belief."

The court was told that Sophie's cousin had been given a tent for his birthday by his grandparents and, during the Saturday afternoon the tent was put up in the large garden. "Once erected the children were full of it," Mr Elias said. They pestered their

parents until they agreed that they could sleep in it that night. "It seemed the end of a perfect family day."

During that afternoon, while the children were playing in the garden, Mr Hughes had been seen hovering on the other side of the fence on a bridge path a few yards away, listening to their chatter. In their innocent play these children, wearing little or nothing, had made targets for his depravity.

Later that evening, Mr Hughes had returned to Llandudno and allegedly tried to abduct another seven-year-old girl who was playing less than four minutes' cycle ride from the Jones's garden.

At about 12.45am on the night of the attack Mr Jones had checked on the three children and zipped up the tent. He had gone to bed leaving the patio door open and the garden gate bolted.

Mr Elias said Mr Hughes took Sophie between 1.30 and 2.30am. He had kept Sophie from calling out by placing his hand over her mouth as he took her from the garden.

It was then that Mr Hughes raped and murdered Sophie, Mr Elias said. Her death had been caused by manual strangulation. Her clothes had been taken off. Her body had been washed up on the shore and found by a passer-by shortly after 7am. She had been violently assaulted and suffered broken arm and extensive bruising.

Mr Hughes had denied any involvement in the murder during five days of questioning in police custody. Mr Elias said that Mr Hughes's father, Gerald, a successful businessman, then visited his son and Mr Hughes subsequently confessed the murder to him and told him where her clothing could be found.

During a search of Mr Hughes's home, a collection of children's underwear had been found in a stone wall in the garden. The defendant had an obsession with sex with children, Mr Elias said. "He had an intention and a determination at this time to carry his fantasy into reality." The trial continues.



Sophie: taken from tent

## Abandoned cuddly toy was first clue

By KATE ALDERSON

JULIE HOOK, 35, Sophie's mother, said in a written police statement read out in court yesterday: "The sight of 'Blankies', Sophie's cuddly toy in the tent, was the first real evidence she had gone missing. She never went anywhere without it."

She described how the cousins had been very close and regularly contacted each other by telephone and visited one another's homes regularly. "I would describe them as good friends. On occasion we would have sleepovers, swapping the children around."

"Both families had planned to meet on Sunday [the day Sophie's body was found] in Chester to see a Batman movie. Sophie and her sister had identical Winnie the Pooh nighties and Sophie wouldn't go anywhere without 'Blankies'. Because it was such a lovely day Sophie took her clothes off and was running around wearing just her knickers. I went at about 4pm after they cut the birthday cake and sang Happy Birthday. The children waved goodbye."

Mrs Hook and her husband

Chris received a phone call the next morning saying Sophie was missing. They drove to Llandudno and after conferring with police identified their daughter's body.

Mr Hook, 38, said he often warned his children about going with strangers: "We instilled in Sophie how she must not go with strangers. She was wary of people she did not know and I can't believe she would willingly go away from Danny's house, let alone from the garden. She was a healthy child with no medical problems. She had never wandered away or become separated from us in the past."

Danny Jones, Sophie's uncle, said of his niece's last afternoon: "She had been enjoying herself, playing charades. They were more like brothers and sisters than cousins. Sophie was just a typical seven-year-old excited about camping out. My son had come back in the house because the others had frightened him talking about ghosts."

None of Sophie's relatives was in court to hear the opening day of evidence.

## Broadcasters chided after 'freak shows'

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BROADCASTING watchdogs are to warn television and radio companies against "victim entertainment" in which people's misfortunes and peculiarities are exploited as if they were performers in a Victorian freak show.

The warning comes after viewers' complaints about the way people with "interesting" medical conditions were shown in documentaries. The Broadcasting Standards Council has upheld three complaints on the issue in its bulletin

published today and will raise the matter with broadcasters next month when it publishes its annual report.

One ruling was against Vanessa Feltz, which featured a 16-month-old baby suffering from a condition known as premature sexual maturation. The council said it was uneasy about the display of young children in a talk show with a live studio audience, particularly in a case centring on intimate details.



Lisa Smith leaving court in Bangkok yesterday with a British Embassy official

## Drugs girl freed at cost of £40,000

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN BANGKOK

LOOKING fresh, fit and suntanned, 20-year-old Lisa Smith, the latest Briton to face drugs charges in Thailand, walked from court in Bangkok to a waiting limousine yesterday after being told that there was nothing to stop her flying home.

The ruling came 12 days after a secretive bail agreement had been arranged by her father, giving her freedom at a cost of £40,000.

Miss Smith was arrested at Bangkok airport in January. Police said originally that she was carrying 4kg of opium and 500 amphetamine tablets. Yesterday she was charged with possessing and trafficking in 4kg of cannabis and 500 amphetamine tablets.

Wearing make-up, a blue tunic and ankle-length white skirt, she contrasted with the procession of foreign prisoners who usually go to court looking pale, often in chains and always wearing drab, brown, prison overalls.

She was allowed to sit not in the dock but next to her three lawyers. After the short hearing her criminal lawyer said: "She is only making one plea: not guilty. She will return to

face the charges. She will say she was framed."

Putri Kuvannonda, representing the family on the bail agreement, said: "She has received bail unconditionally. She is free to go wherever she wants but she must turn up on August 23 for the next hearing. If she does not, the family will forfeit the bail and a warrant will be issued for her arrest."

Miss Smith faces between five and 20 years in jail if convicted. In theory, her bail deal allows her to cut and run at any time during her trial, which could last years.

Bail has never before been given to foreigners in heroin or opium cases for that reason. But the £40,000 bond is four times that paid into court by Joseph McCracken, a Scot currently on trial for murder.

Within 24 hours of Miss Smith's arrest, her father, Terence, chief executive of National Mutual Assurance (Asia), based in Hong Kong, arrived with her mother to take care of her case and appoint lawyers.

He has since asked British Embassy officials and lawyers to make no comment on the case.

SATURDAY  
IN THE TIMES



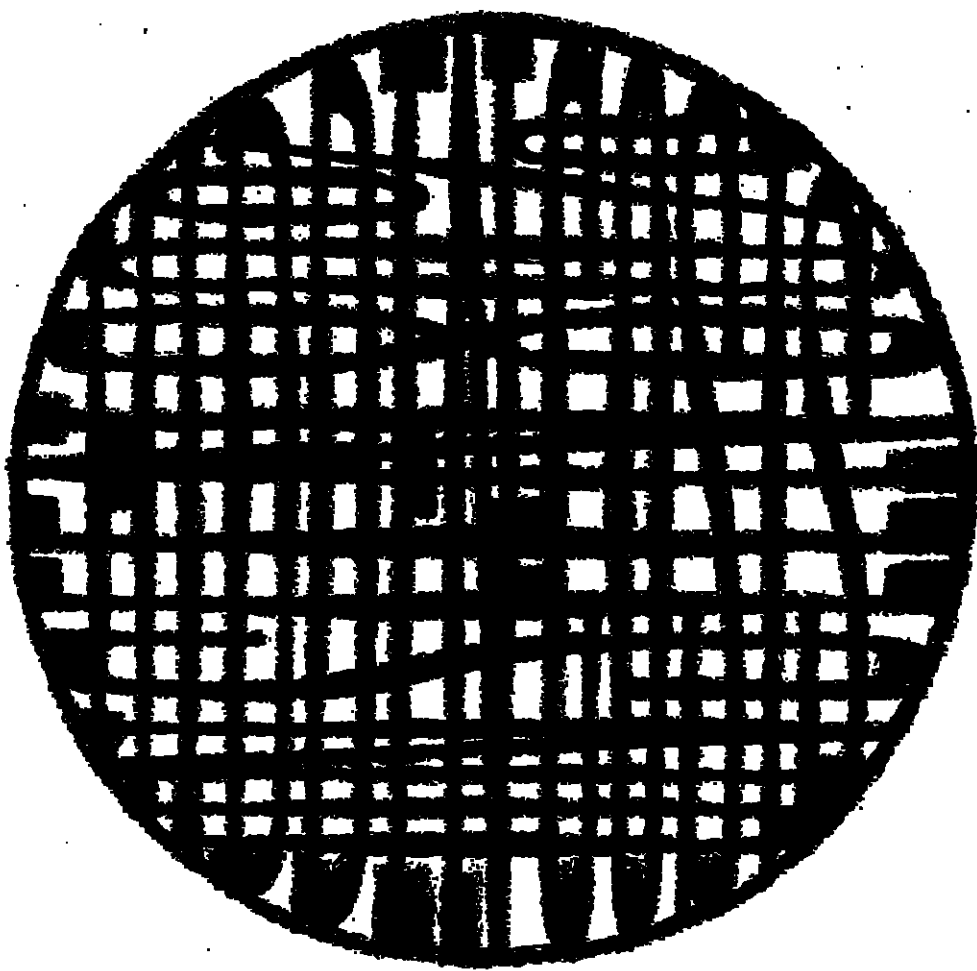
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# Regional Poor n Europ lags b Conti

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

MOST of the poor in Europe are in the UK, the Irish Republic, Greece and Portugal. The UK is the poorest of the 15 states in the European Union, with the exception of the Azores and Madeira.

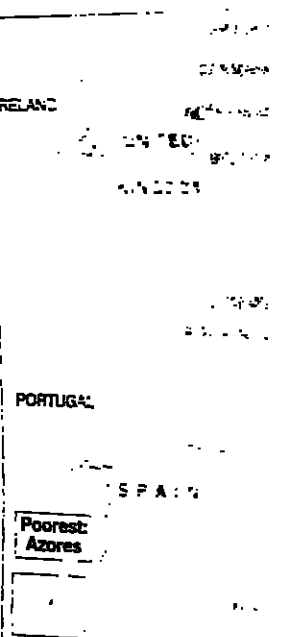
The UK is the poorest of the 15 states in the European Union, with the exception of the Azores and Madeira. The UK is the poorest of the 15 states in the European Union, with the exception of the Azores and Madeira. The UK is the poorest of the 15 states in the European Union, with the exception of the Azores and Madeira.

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More than three-quarters of the workforce in the UK is in the service sector, compared with 60 per cent in France, West Germany, the Netherlands and the Canary Islands.

The figures are based on data collected by the Office for National Statistics. The UK is the poorest of the 15 states in the European Union, with the exception of the Azores and Madeira.



## Welsh m smalles

THE Welsh are becoming poorer relations of the United Kingdom, with their income and living standards dropping dramatically behind other areas (Dominic Kennedy writes).

The average household in Wales now has a lower weekly income even than Northern Ireland, while most homes rely on social security benefits than anywhere else in the UK. In 1980-81, the Welsh earned 91 per cent of the average English income, while the Scots took 84 per cent and the Northern Irish 78 per cent.

By 1994-95, household income in Wales was taking home 75 per cent as much as the English neighbours, while the Scots had risen to 90 per cent.

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## Regional trends survey

# Poor man of Europe still lags behind Continent

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MOST of the United Kingdom is poorer than the rest of the European Union, with only the South East and East Anglia wealthier than the continental average.

The first detailed survey of trends in the expanded Europe of 15 states shows spending power in Britain lagging far behind many member states while lifestyles are also less comfortable. The UK has the ninth highest gross domestic product per head in the Union, behind Luxembourg, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands and Italy. Only Sweden, Finland, Ireland, Spain, Portugal and Greece are poorer.

Most Italians now have more spending power than the Welsh, while Finland and northeast Spain are richer than the North of England. The troubles in Northern Ireland have made long-term unemployment in the region worse than almost anywhere else in Europe.

The North of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland have some of the lowest rates of car ownership, with fewer vehicles than the Portuguese. Scotland has the highest death rate apart from three German regions.

More than three quarters of the workforce in southeast England is in the service sector; only Brussels, Ile de France, West-Nederland and the Canaries have higher proportions.

The figures are disclosed in *Regional Trends*, published today by the Government's Statistical Service.

Southwest England has the oldest population outside northern and central Italy,

with one in five people aged 65 or over. Scotland, Wales, the North and North West of England have some of the highest death rates from circulatory causes.

One of the few positive findings is that the average yields of wheat and barley in Yorkshire, Humberside, the East Midlands and East Anglia are among the highest in Europe.

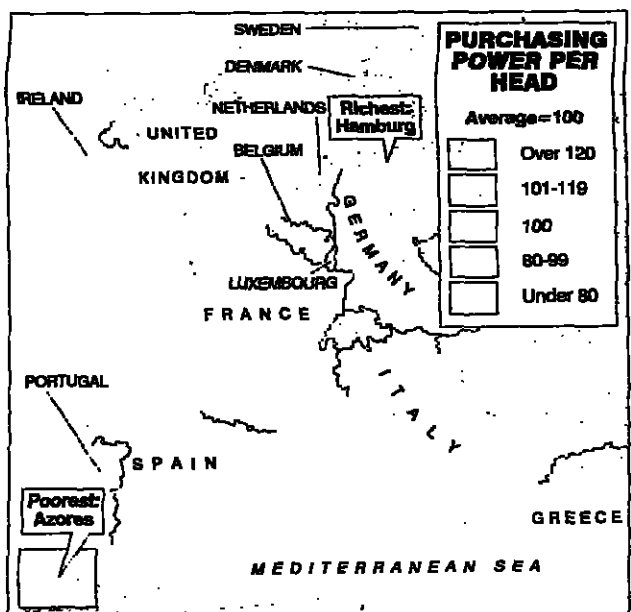
The richest region of Europe is Hamburg, followed by Ile de France and Luxembourg. The tiny, densely populated north German state is home to 1.7 million people who each have almost twice as much to spend as the British.

They make their fortune, as do many of the wealthiest parts of the Continent, from working in service industries, with low proportions of the population employed in industry and little reliance on agriculture.

The poorest part of the Union is the Azores, whose 240,000 inhabitants have less than half Britain's gross domestic product. The islands are sparsely populated, with a large proportion of the population aged 15 or under, high birth and death rates and the worst infant mortality in Europe.

The youngest part of Europe is the Irish Republic where more than a quarter of the population is aged under 16. The oldest is Emilia-Romagna in northern Italy, where a fifth is over 64.

European structural funds next year will concentrate help on Northern Ireland, with £170 million, and North West England with £120 million. □ *Regional Trends* (Stationery Office; £35.95)



## Welsh make do on smallest incomes

THE Welsh are becoming the poor relations of the United Kingdom, with their incomes and living standards dropping dramatically behind other areas (Dominic Kennedy writes).

The average household in Wales now has a lower gross weekly income even than Northern Ireland, while more homes rely on social security benefits than anywhere else in the UK. In 1980-81, the Welsh earned 91 per cent of the average English income, while the Scots took 94 per cent and the Northern Irish 78 per cent.

By 1994-95, households in Wales were taking home only 75 per cent as much as their English neighbours, while the Scots had risen to 97 per cent

and the Northern Irish to 89 per cent. A Welsh home has £282 a week to live on, compared with £375 in England.

The Welsh also spent much less per head than other Britons, only £96 a week each compared with £119 in England. More of their income went on essentials such as fuel, light and power, motor-ing and fares. They spent less on clothing and footwear, household goods and leisure.

Northern Ireland has seen a reversal of fortunes in recent years. It is the only part of the nation in which house prices have risen each year since 1989.

Ulster children are most likely to pass at least two A levels and least likely to leave school without qualifications.



Dennis MacLeod first got the taste for gold when he went panning in Sutherland

## Tycoon gets go-ahead for Scotland's first goldmine

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A TYCOON whose ancestor sparked Scotland's only gold rush more than 100 years ago has received final planning consent for Scotland's first commercial goldmine.

Dennis MacLeod, 55, the Scots-Canadian head of the Toronto-based Caledonia Mining Corporation, will fulfil a childhood ambition when work starts on the goldmine at Cononish, near Tyndrum, Perthshire, next year.

Mr. MacLeod, originally from Helmsdale, in Sutherland, became fascinated with gold at the age of ten when his uncle took him panning near by in Strath Kildonan. The new mine at Cononish, an area of outstanding natural beauty that includes Ben Lui and the native pine forest at Coille Coire Chulic, is expected to produce gold and silver ore worth £37 million. It will employ about 80 people during the development phase and will extract an estimated 25,000 ounces of gold a year.

Caledonia Mining employs 1,500 people worldwide and operates mines in South Africa and Spain. It bought the Tyndrum interests from the



Scotland's first goldrush: Kildonan in the 1860s

Irish group Fynegold Exploration for £5 million last year. There had been initial hostility from some locals and environmental groups about the proposed mine but stringent conditions have been laid down by the local authority which have satisfied the Tay River Purification Board.

Yesterday Mr. MacLeod said: "Getting a goldmine up and running in Scotland is the realisation of my boyhood ambition. The corporation is committed to local community development and prosperity. We will endeavour to train and employ local people."

The 200 villagers of Tyndrum have always known there was gold in the area. Eighteenth-century miners dug for lead on the Cononish

site; they would have come across seams of silver and gold, but possibly too fine to recognise.

Robert Gilchrist, an ancestor of Mr. MacLeod's, was responsible for Scotland's only gold rush. In 1868 he sparked a two-year frenzy at Kildonan when he returned after 17 years in the goldfields of Australia.

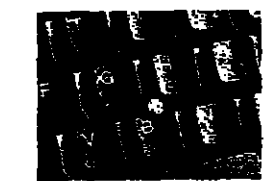
More than 600 prospectors took the train to Golspie and trekked 20 miles over moorland to stake their claims. Between £12,000 and £22,000 of gold was discovered before the Duke of Sutherland cleared the miners off his land on New Year's Day, 1870, after farmers complained that they were cutting into grazing land for sheep.



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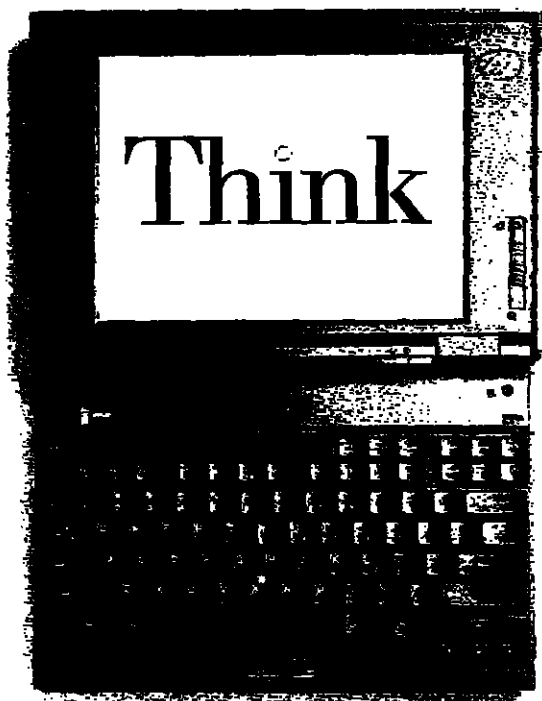
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# Doctors vote to boycott 'insecure' computer net

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

PATIENTS' medical records stored on a growing national NHS computer network can be obtained by insurance companies and employers because security is so lax, doctors said yesterday.

The confidentiality of information disclosed by patients in medical consultations and carried on the network cannot be guaranteed, the British Medical Association said. At its annual general meeting in Brighton doctors voted to boycott the NHS Wide Net, which links computer banks in GPs' surgeries, hospitals and health authorities, until safeguards are introduced. The net was started on April 1.

NHS trusts and GPs are expected to use the network to exchange details of patient treatments so that they may be billed and paid for electronically under the NHS market.

Dr Fleur Fisher, the BMA's head of ethics, said: "Don't link your surgery or hospital to the net until you can ensure that the data in your computers can't be leaked out anywhere else." She disclosed that the information already circulating on the net could be traced to individuals despite having been "anonymised". "Most data which the Government said has been de-identified only has the names and addresses taken off. But it leaves the postcode and date of birth, which is enough to make an identification."

An American case gave warning of what could happen in Britain, she said. A non-

executive director of a private health maintenance organisation in Boston, Massachusetts, obtained details of all patients with cancer from the computer database. As he was also a director of a local bank he was able to match the information with the list of outstanding bank loans so that he could call them in before the patients died.

Experts say that the information can be scrambled. The Health Department has agreed to discuss options with doctors' leaders.

Dr Michael Williams, a consultant paediatrician, said: "In NHS trusts computer users have to take more security measures. Most leave terminals running in public view and passwords are exchanged freely. Trusts will merely have to declare that they comply with security guidelines — but can we trust them? We need much better guarantees of security. The technical means to safeguard information is available but clearly not in place."

Dr Simon Jenkins, chairman of the BMA's information technology committee, described how Aids patients in America sought legal advice before consulting doctors.

Dr Sandy Macara, BMA Council chairman, said ministers had strung doctors along for a year with empty reassurances about the network's safety. "We wish to see the system up and running but not at the expense of any threat to patient confidentiality."

## GPs 'need treatment'

UP TO 10,000 doctors have a drink or drug problem that requires treatment but only a handful are getting the help they need, Jeremy Laurance writes.

Dr Michael Wilks, a police surgeon in west London and chairman of the BMA's drug misuse working party, told the BMA meeting that there was no evidence that they were a

danger to patients but urgent action was necessary to prevent any risk.

Organisations including the BMA and the Royal Colleges have agreed in principle the need for a treatment service that could deal with 300 to 400 doctors a year. However, the £300,000 cost has still to be found. "If we don't take action others will," Dr Wilks said.



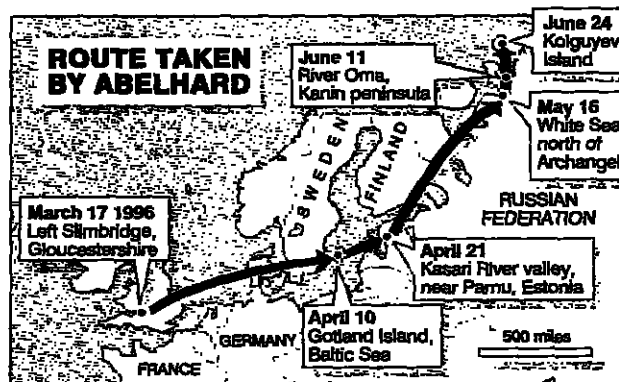
Workers celebrate after a 150-tonne boring machine linked up excavations under London Bridge yesterday to create a continuous six-mile stretch of tunnel for the Jubilee Tube line extension into east London. By August the tunnels should be finished and the line, said to be the largest construction project in Europe, is on schedule to open in March 1998. It will run from Green Park in the West End to Stratford

## Swan sends back radio travelogue

BY MICHAEL HORNSEY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS have tracked the 2,500-mile flight path of migrating Bewick's swans from their winter refuge in southern England to their summer breeding grounds in the tundra of northern Russia.

They strapped a tiny radio transmitter to the back of Abelhard, a 12-year-old bird, which set off from the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, on March 17 accompanied by its mate, Mid-Off. The radio's 12-inch aerial has been transmitting signals via satellite about once every 13 days to a station in Toulouse, southwest France, which feeds the information to Bristol University,



enabling researchers at Slimbridge to plot the swan's route. Abelhard's first signal was received on April 10 from Gotland Island in the Baltic Sea. After resting in Estonia, the bird entered Russia, stop-

ping on the White Sea coast in mid-May and reporting in from the mouth of the River Oka three weeks later. The most recent signal, on June 24, came from Kolguev Island in the Barents Sea.

John Bowler, the trust's swan specialist, said: "Although we have been studying Bewick's swans for 25 years, we had hardly any detailed information about their migration path. This new data will help us to protect the sites the swans visit against hunters and development."

Bewick's swans have yellow and black bills and are smaller than the mute swans that are year-round residents of Britain. They number about 45,000, up to 8,000 of which spend the winter in Britain, about 450 at Slimbridge.

The researchers are hoping for an even more detailed picture of the swan's journey back to Britain. "Abelhard will be sending back almost continuous signals, so we should have a record of every place he visits," Mr Bowler said.

## Brightest not the best for bashful fireflies

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

FEMALE fireflies favour a faster flashing rate in males rather than sheer wattage, Dr Marc Branham and Dr Michael Greenfield of Kansas University report in *Nature*.

Typically, a male firefly flies about three to nine feet off the ground emitting short bursts of flashes, each lasting a second or two. A female on the ground may reply with a dimmer flash, which often attracts the male, and a flashing duet may ensue. In propitious circumstances that can end in courtship and mating.

The two entomologists filmed the displays, simulating the flashes and varying the characteristics. They showed that females respond best to a higher flash rate.

Under half the females responded to simulated male flashing at less than 2.7 flashes a second, but more than three quarters reacted to a flash rate of four a second. Variables such as flash length or brightness did not attract them.

## Gardener dies from tetanus

A man has died from tetanus after cutting his leg while turning over his garden with a rotavator. Michael Carter, a 52-year-old carpenter, went to his local casualty department for stitches and an anti-tetanus booster injection but after returning to his home in Gayhurst, Buckinghamshire, the leg began to swell.

When tetanus was diagnosed Mr Carter, a grandfather, was transferred to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, and six days later suffered a heart attack caused by the infection. He died in intensive care on Sunday. An inquest was opened and adjourned on Tuesday.

## £87,000 aria

A previously unrecorded part of a soprano aria by Mozart, discovered wrapped in brown paper in an American attic, fetched £87,000 at Christie's in London yesterday. It was bought by an anonymous telephone bidder for more than three times the estimate.

## Dunn payout

The former heavyweight boxer Richard Dunn has agreed damages of about £300,000 after an accident on a North Sea rig in 1989. Dunn, 41, who fought Muhammad Ali for the world title in 1976, fell 40ft and broke both ankles. He walks with the aid of sticks.

## Split decision

Efforts to reunite the head of Oliver Cromwell with his body have been rebuffed by Sir George Wombwell, his descendant. He has told campaigners that the corpse will not be removed from its vault at the family home in North Yorkshire.

## Musical tryst

The singer Kim Wilde, starring in *Tommy* in London, has become engaged to Hal Fowler, another member of the cast. Fowler, who plays Cousin Kevin in the rock musical, proposed to Ms Wilde, Tommy's mother, on a break in Calais this week.

## Animal passion

Police called in a spotter plane to help in a search of Cowses golf course on the Isle of Wight after a passer-by believed he heard the sound of someone being attacked. The operation ended when the source was identified as two foxes mating.

A report referred to by Mr Ronald Bernstein, QC, in his letter, "Tackling the evil of cowboy builders" (June 20), is available from Justice, 59 Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AQ, price £4.

## Woodpecker leads flight to oblivion

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A SMALL ant-eating woodpecker has been identified as Britain's biggest loser in the bird world. Once common throughout England and Wales, the wryneck is now thought to be reduced to five breeding pairs.

It has been in decline since the mid 1800s and last bred in any numbers in Kent and Sussex before the Second World War.

The wryneck's misfortunes, though, are almost equalled by those of the white-tailed eagle, the corn crane and the red-backed shrike, according to ornithologists who have compiled a table of winners and losers for *British Birds*, published by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

David Gibbons, Mark Avery and Andrew Brown place the white-tailed eagle second in their list of losers. It became extinct in Britain but after reintroduction from Norway there are thought to be ten breeding pairs. The secretive corn crane has been in decline for 150 years and its disappearance is now thought to be only a matter of time.

The red-backed shrike,

widespread in Britain in the 19th century, first failed to breed in England in 1989, and though a pair bred in East Anglia in 1992, it is now counted as extinct as a breeding bird. Other losers cited include the corn bunting and the black-tailed godwit. The great bustard and great auk are already gone.

The winners, the ornithologists say, are led by the tufted duck, which has boosted its population over the past two centuries to 7,500 pairs. Other birds on the increase include the Canada goose, with 75,000 pairs, and the pheasant, with more than three million breeding.

Surprisingly, studies reveal that the number of species breeding in the UK increased from 194 to 230 between 1800 and 1995, although bird populations in general declined alarmingly.

Mr Gibbons said yesterday: "We only have to go back a few human generations to find surprising and shocking changes. We may have gained a lot of birds but the losses would seem unbelievable to a Victorian birdwatcher."

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# PoWs win review of lost wartime pay 'worth £90m'

BY ADRIAN LEE

THOUSANDS of former prisoners of war who claim they lost pay while incarcerated during the Second World War have won a fresh review of their cases. The sum involved 50 years ago was £1 million, and the 14,000 former servicemen believe it is now worth up to £90 million.

The decision by the Ministry of Defence to "thoroughly consider" the claims marks a breakthrough for the veterans after a 16-year campaign. The review will be headed by Earl Howe, the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Defence.

Those affected fall into two groups who both had money deducted from their wages while they were held captive: up to 4,000 protected personnel, such as doctors, nursing orderlies, ambulance drivers and padres; and 10,500 officers from all three services.

Under the terms of the Geneva Convention, protected personnel should have received payment from the enemy and, as a result, British paymasters made deductions of up to 50 per cent. In reality, some were never paid by the Germans and Italians, a few were paid erratically, while others were paid "laager



Captain Hugo Bracken, right, as a PoW in Germany

marks" by the enemy which were supposed to be used to buy essentials and redeemed for sterling after the war. They were virtually worthless or not refunded. Officers also received the "laager marks", which were treated as an advance on their pay.

Ordinary soldiers, who did not fall into either category, had no pay deducted and are not involved in the claim. Officers held in Japan had pay refunded after the war, while protected personnel held there did not have pay deducted. The officers have founded their own campaign group, Justice for Prisoners of War.

Graham King, who served in the medical corps as a corporal, claims £150 was deducted from his pay for five years while he was a prisoner

at Stalag 20A in Poland. Experts have calculated it is worth many thousands of pounds today.

Mr King, 77, spokesman for the National Ex-Prisoners of War Association, said: "The attitude of the Government has always been that it was such a long time ago, so forget it. But many people feel disgusted by the way they were treated."

Few pay records still exist and a review in 1980 by a defence working party concluded there was insufficient evidence to reopen files. The former servicemen have since gathered new evidence.

Mr King, who was captured before the fall of Dunkirk, said he sensed a change in attitude. The outlook seemed "quite positive". Unfortunately, he

added, many colleagues who felt they were entitled to money were now dead.

Captain Hugo "Bungee" Bracken, 84, a former Fleet Air Arm flier from Groombridge, East Sussex, claims he is owed £5,300, equivalent to £276 in the 1940s. He was shot down over Norway and spent four years in a PoW camp in former Silesia. About a quarter of his pay was deducted while he was captive and he received "laager marks". He said they were worthless.

Captain Bracken said he would be happy, given the complexity of calculating back pay, if a lump sum was given to service charities. "The Government has behaved absolutely disgracefully," he said.

Charles Shelton, 77, a former medic from King's Lynn, Norfolk, said: "It's not the money, it's the principle. When I got home I was given a £100 payoff but I had no idea what I was or wasn't entitled to." He was captured at Arnhem. "It hurts me to think about the way we have been betrayed."

Confirming the review, an MoD spokesman said: "It will be looked at again but because there are no records it is a review of principle. How they could ever decide how much was owed, I don't know."



Mr Bracken at home near Tunbridge Wells. He claims he is owed £5,300 for £276 deducted from wartime pay

## Crofting family puts isles on sale

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A GROUP of uninhabited islands in the Western Isles is being offered for sale by a retired crofter.

John Mackenzie, 74, used the islands in the Sound of Harris for grazing sheep until he sold his flock last year. Now he and his brothers have decided to sell the estate to the highest bidder.

The islands are Ensay, Saghay Mhor, Saghay Bheag, Slaicham, Suem, Groay, Vaten, Lingay, Crago and Scaravay. They lie between Harris and North Uist, not far from the site of the planned Lingerbay superquarry. Ensay, the largest of the islands, has a small summer house, which is not owned by the Mackenzie brothers.

The Sound of Harris offers breathtaking views in the summer but is a treacherous crossing during foul weather. Mr Mackenzie, of Leverburgh, south Harris, was being coy yesterday about how much he expected the islands to raise. "It's just a case of the best offer," he said. "There has been quite a bit of interest already so I'm quite confident we will sell."

## Salmon a good catch at £6,000

BY A STAFF REPORTER

FISHING rights to two miles of one of Scotland's prime salmon rivers are being sold for £3 million. The seduced Upper Kercock and Delvine beats on the Tay, north of Perth, are on offer from Lethendy Estates, a property company, at a rate equivalent to more than £6,000 per fish.

Last year 549 salmon were caught there. Colin Strang Steel, of Knight Frank, said: "It seems like a lot of money to ask but not in relation to the number of fish that have been caught. Back in the Eighties prices were as high as £15,000 per fish."

The Upper Kercock and Delvine, near the village of Muthilly, Tayside, are among the last beats on the river not split into smaller sections or divided into timeshare lets. The most likely buyer is thought to be either a consortium of wealthy anglers or a sporting company that will lease out the rights.

The new owner will have the choice of 12 well-stocked pools, with names such as the Cottage, the Dungeon and the Garden, or the three islands in the Delvine stretch.

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# Vicar forced to quit new post in clash over women priests

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A TRADITIONALIST Church of England congregation has forced its new parish priest to resign before setting foot in the vicarage because of his support for the ordination of women.

The Rev David Burrell, 39, was due to leave his parish in Suffolk to become priest-in-charge of eight parishes around Colkirk in Norfolk. He had been interviewed and offered the job, which he accepted.

However, some of the congregation in one of his new parishes did not realise he supported women priests until the position was offered and accepted. Facing the threat of a church boycott in Colkirk, the village where he was to live, Mr Burrell felt he had no choice but to resign.

"I feel a bit angry that a small group of people can hold such sway over a whole group of parishes," he said. "I have had many messages from people in the other parishes saying they are upset."

"My bishop here in Suffolk said he would be very happy for me to stay in this diocese and has asked me to look at some other parishes. I wouldn't have been allowed to do my job as a priest. Some of the people in the parish would

not have accepted the eucharist from me."

The case is thought to be the first of its kind in the Church of England, which voted in 1992 to ordain women priests. It highlights divisions that remain in the Church which, although it has appointed "flying bishops" to look after opponents and has granted parishes the freedom to refuse a woman priest, is likely to remain unsettled about the issue for years to come.

The objectors had said they would be happy for Mr Burrell to arrange for a stand-in to celebrate communion at the 13th-century Church of St Mary the Virgin. However, if he refused, they threatened to leave the group to join a neighbouring group of parishes. Mr Burrell said it was fortunate that he had not yet signed his letter of resignation from St Mary's Church in Haughley, Suffolk, where he will now remain.

He said: "It was some weeks after my interview when the Colkirk parochial church council suddenly wrote to the bishop saying they wanted to withdraw support for me."

The bishop went to see them and I thought they had reached a compromise. But when I met the council it was

obvious that was not the case."

Diana Beck, lay vice-chairman of Colkirk church council, voted to oppose Mr Burrell celebrating communion at an emergency meeting which she called after she became aware of his support of women priests.

"We have a congregation of between 6 and 26 and I know most of them share my views opposing women priests," she said. "They would have boycotted services if he had administered the sacraments and he would have had an empty church."

She said the council did not object earlier because of "a misunderstanding". However, Bill Vyse, a Colkirk church warden who sat on the interview panel, said: "I support the ordination of women. I was looking forward to working with Mr Burrell but other members did not agree with me."

The Right Rev David Conner, the Bishop of Lynn, has met church council representatives in Colkirk to discuss appointing another priest who is acceptable to all eight parishes. He said: "I have never been involved in a case like this. The appointment of a priest that has broken down at such a late stage."



The Rev David Burrell, above, was supported by Bill Vyse, below left, church warden at St Mary's, Colkirk, when he was made priest-in-charge, but others forced him to resign before he had set foot in the vicarage



## Athletics body fights Modahl cash claim

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE British Athletic Federation went to the High Court yesterday in an attempt to strike out the damages claim by the Olympic athlete Diane Modahl.

Modahl, who attended the private hearing, is suing the federation for £480,000 in legal and medical costs sustained in her successful campaign to clear her name of allegations that she took performance-enhancing drugs. She is also seeking punitive damages for the way her case was handled by the federation.

Modahl was banned for four years after tests in Lisbon in 1994 appeared to show that she had a high level of testosterone in her body. The tests were eventually discredited and the ban was lifted.

The federation is understood to be arguing that it complied with the rules and that there is no foundation for a damages action. If Mr Justice Popplewell rejects its claim, the full hearing of the case is expected to take place in the autumn. The judge will give his judgment in open court tomorrow.

Modahl is currently training for the Olympics in Atlanta. She won selection for the 800m after finishing second in the national trial in Birmingham. Outside the court she said she was "very excited" by the prospect of Atlanta.

## Tong family plans move to Ireland

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE wife of Albert Tong, the illegal immigrant arrested after seeking sanctuary in a church, is hoping to take up a job offer in Ireland to enable the family to start a new life there and avoid her husband's deportation.

Becky Tong is flying to the Irish Republic with the couple's three-year-old daughter, Monica, to accept the post, according to solicitors for the family. Chris Bryan said that he was talking to the Home Office about his client joining his wife in Ireland to avoid deportation to Hong Kong.

He said Mr Tong had a right to go to Ireland because his wife was a British citizen. By working there she had European Community rights, and her husband had the right to stay there with her.

The move came as Mr Tong, 43, who had a suspected heart attack after his arrest, was being discharged from hospital yesterday. A Home Office spokesman said the movements of Mr Tong's wife

were a matter for her. "Our position remains that we are medically fit and we will be deported to Hong Kong," the spokesman said. He would not say when that would be.

Mr Tong, who had lived for 17 years in Camborne, Cornwall, had been under observation in hospital since his collapse in Newquay police station after his arrest at Marazion Methodist Church, west Cornwall.

Lawmakers in Hong Kong yesterday added their voice to appeals to the Government to allow Mr Tong to remain in the UK in a letter of protest, signed by 48 of the 60 legislators.

Mr Tong's local support group called on Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to allow him to apply for EU citizenship as he held a British Dependent Territories passport. The Churches Commission for Racial Justice also appealed for him to be allowed to stay.

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## Need to tackle Parliament's weaknesses cannot be ignored

John Major is right that the House of Commons is at the heart of the debate over constitutional reform. That is too often ignored by the advocates of change, whether of the House of Lords, the House of Commons or the House of Lords. They frequently justify their proposals on their own terms while not taking into account the wider implications. But Mr Major is wrong to argue that this automatically undermines the case for change.

At least Mr Major recognises that the constitution is not some unchanging model of perfection and has altered since 1799. But

those very changes have themselves destabilised the constitution and the place of Parliament. Some started before 1799 — though have developed considerably since then — such as the growing power of European institutions, the broadening scope of judicial review and the omnipresence of the media in the political debate.

But other changes can be directly traced to the Tories — notably the centralisation of controls in Whitehall at the expense not only of local authorities but also of other intermediary institutions which the Tories say they value, such as universities and voluntary bodies.

### RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Mr Major fairly argued in his speech at the Centre for Policy Studies last night that the Tories have devolved management to hospitals and individual schools and have strengthened people's rights as consumers of public services. These are pluses which the reformers tend to ignore. But the overall funding control remains at the centre, not with Parliament but with the executive. Consequently, there is a clear imbalance in the constitution. The

centre is too strong and the local too weak: on that, at least, Paddy Ashdown and Jack Straw were agreed in their speeches yesterday urging wide-ranging reform. The Tories have so far failed adequately to respond to demands for a shift in this balance, particularly in Scotland. There is nothing particularly outlandish in having a Scottish parliament with a limited remit and tax-raising powers: after all, every American state and German lander has far greater responsibilities.

The problem is less what might happen within Scotland, or Wales (if a workable plan could be

devised for the perennially fractious principality) than over relations with the national Government. That is recognised in the thorough reports of the recently established Constitution Unit, which are intentionally similar to the briefs which might be produced by civil servants for an incoming Blair Government, sympathetic to the aims but noting the pitfalls. The most critical remarks in its reports are about relations with the centre, over budgets and representation at Westminster.

Any workable reform plans have to deal with these issues and the future of Parliament itself. It is

no good viewing them in separate compartments. If powers are shifted away from Westminster, as they already have been to the EU, the role of the Commons, and the Lords, has to be reconsidered. Parliament may remain, in Mr Major's words, "the focus of the nation's unity at times of national grief or outrage and the threat for the great convulsion of political history". But that does not make it effective on a day-to-day basis.

Mr Major's proposals for shifting the timing of the Queen's Speech to avoid congestion around the time of the Budget and announcing provisional legislative

plans a year ahead are sensible in a gradualist way — and are in line with the recommendations of almost every group that has looked at parliamentary reform over the past decade. But they barely deal with the central issue of ensuring that Parliament is better at scrutinising legislation and the executive.

It is good just warning about the dangers of ill-thought-out reform, necessary though that is. But the weaknesses of Parliament have to be addressed. Mr Major offered only half a case last night.

PETER RIDDELL

## Don't tamper with fabric of the nation, says Major

By Andrew Pierce  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR opened the most far-reaching debate on the constitution for a generation last night with a warning that Labour's "dangerous" plans for reform threatened to unstick the fabric of Britain's way of life.

The Prime Minister heralded the start of a Cabinet counter-offensive against Opposition proposals on devolution, the abolition of hereditary peers, and proportional representation.

Ministers believe that the Labour leadership's change of heart on a referendum for a Scottish parliament was a further sign that it has become increasingly sensitive to Tory attacks on their plans for constitutional reform.

A succession of Cabinet ministers will enter the debate in the coming weeks with set-piece speeches defending the Union and attacking Labour.

Mr Major, in his speech last night to the Centre for Policy Studies, said that Parliament was the cement that held together the United Kingdom. "Threaten the central role of our national Parliament and you threaten that unity and stability. The differences floated by the Opposition could not fail to destabilise and, in the end, diminish the British Parliament."

Parliament had its quirks and faults but it was hard to find another country where it was so central to national life. "That is why piecemeal re-

### WHERE THE PARTIES STAND

**CONSERVATIVES**  
PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION: opposed, because it would give disproportionate influence to minority parties  
SCOTLAND: supports the status quo  
WALES: supports the status quo  
HOUSE OF LORDS: supports hereditary principle  
COMMONS: two-year Parliaments

**LABOUR**  
PR: committed to a referendum on voting systems  
SCOTLAND: expected to back a referendum on Scottish parliament with tax powers  
WALES: Welsh assembly without tax-raising powers to absorb many functions of the Welsh Office  
HOUSE OF LORDS: abolish right of hereditary peers to speak and vote as a first step towards reform  
COMMONS: proposed reform of Question Time to one 30-minute weekly session; shorter summer recess

**LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**  
PR: single transferable vote system now used for local and European elections in Northern Ireland  
SCOTLAND: separate tax-raising parliament, with fewer Scots MPs at Westminster  
WALES: separate tax-raising "Senedd"  
HOUSE OF LORDS: abolish hereditary peerage and create elected second chamber  
COMMONS: greater consultation; tougher scrutiny of executive

forms that threaten to erode the power and supremacy of Parliament are so dangerous."

Parliament was the voice of the British people fighting out the complexities of national interest. "It is the focus of the nation's unity at times of national grief or outrage and is the theatre for the great convulsions of political history. No one should lightly contemplate tampering with an institution that is so ancient and yet so alive."

The traditions and institutions that had created the nation had been woven into a

constitutional fabric over centuries. The Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights and the Act of Union were footprints in the nation's story. "A step down the path towards today's modern constitution. Out of this evolutionary change has grown one of the finest, strongest and most admired constitutions in the world. Our constitution is the lifeblood of the United Kingdom. It upholds our freedom."

Pointless fiddling would damage it and create problems not solve them. "It would begin to unstitch our way of

life. One group of politicians could unravel what generations of our predecessors have created."

Mr Major rejected calls for a written constitution, condemned Labour's proposed abolition of hereditary peers, and poured scorn on proportional representation. "The fact is the House of Lords has been far more effective than many overseas equivalent revising chambers." Proportional representation would damage Parliament by breaking links between citizens and constituency MPs.

The constitution was vibrant and robust but not indestructible. "People must realise that our constitution is not a piece of architecture that one can re-engineer by knocking down a wall here or adding an extension there. It's a living, breathing constitution. Its roots are ancient, but it has evolved. And it has been stable because it has popular support. That is why I care so much about our constitution. It is why I will defend our tradition, our heritage, and guard against any needless change which threatens the institutions which make us one nation."

"At the next election, just as at the last, people will be able to choose if they want embark on a voyage into the unknown, uncharted waters of tempestuous change. Our task is to warn them of the perils of doing so."

Leading article, page 19



THE anti-Europe UK Independence Party is planning to field candidates in every constituency at the general election (Andrew Pierce writes).

The move, which will split the anti-federalist vote, is intended to eclipse Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party, which will not challenge candidates who are committed to a referendum on Britain's future in the EU.

Sir James will confront the threat in a speech tonight to hundreds of supporters in Newcastle upon Tyne, emphasising that Britain should negotiate for change from within Europe. The UKIP is committed to Britain's withdrawal from the EU.

### Rival party threatens Goldsmith

Dr Alan Sked, the UKIP leader, said that if the election was in May "we will be flying the flag in 650 constituencies".

The party, which polled 1,300 votes at the recent Staffordshire South East by-election, is said to have more than 10,000 members. The names of its first 100 candidates will be announced next week.

Attacking Sir James for the first time, Dr Sked said: "We are not a one-man band. We do not favour chequebook politics. Britain cannot find leadership from a billionaire MEP. We believe in immediate withdrawal from the EU and to replace membership with a free trade agreement."

### Nolan outlines councils inquiry

By Ian Murray  
COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THE Nolan committee outlined its programme for investigating corruption and incompetence in local government yesterday.

Councils' consideration of planning applications and tenders from outside contractors will be top of the committee's agenda. Lord Nolan, chairman of the committee on standards in public life, intends to review the rules by which councillors are required to declare any interest they have in the outcome of a decision. He also wants to look into the controversial system of making councillors repay the cost of bad decisions through a surcharge.

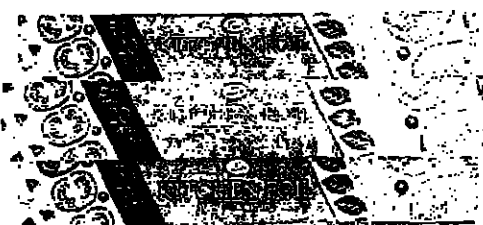
Although he will not investigate individual allegations of misconduct, he is inviting the public and organisations to tell the committee of their experiences with councils so that it can focus its report on the important issues.

Written submissions, addressed to the committee at Horse Guards Road, London, SW1P 3AL, must arrive by October 11. Public meetings on local government will be held towards the end of the year.

### IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: questions to Treasury ministers and the Prime Minister; debate on the Commons: the Lords Education Bill, committee: School Inspection Bill, committee; Security Service Bill, report; Family Law Bill, Commons amendments; Nolan Bill, report.

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# Shadowy Muslim groups suspected of attack aimed at House of Saud

By MICHAEL BINTON  
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

## EXTREMISTS

THE real target of the lorry bomb at the King Abdul Aziz air base in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday was the House of Saud, that has ruled the kingdom since it was founded more than 60 years ago.

The explosion, the most deadly terrorist attack in the Arab world since the blowing up of the Marine barracks in Lebanon in 1982, is a

declaration of war by Islamic extremists on America, the Western presence in the Arabian peninsula, and, above all, on a regime that they consider corrupt, illegitimate, and unfit to hold custody over Mecca and Medina, the two most holy places in Islam.

No one doubts that the tanker lorry bomb at the military base in

Dhahran was the work of one of the militant groups which in recent years have become an increasing threat to the stability of Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil producer.

The likely perpetrators are two shadowy groups, the Movement for Islamic Change and the Tigers of the Gulf, who claimed responsibility for a similar attack last November. Little is known about their size, strength and member-

ship. But they and other Islamic radicals have one thing in common: hatred for a regime they believe has brought Western decadence to the heartland of Islam.

The Dhahran bomb was not unexpected. After the November bombing of a military training and communications centre in central Riyadh, in which seven people including five Americans were killed, four Islamic militants were arrested. The Saudi Government

said they confessed that they had been inspired by Muhammad al-Masari, the militant Islamic dissident living in London.

But opposition groups insisted such confessions were extracted through torture, and gave a warning of further attacks should the men be executed. They were, nevertheless, publicly beheaded on May 31.

The growing unrest in Saudi Arabia stems from the 1991 Gulf

War. King Fahd's decision to accept a large allied force, mostly American, was seen by conservatives as sacrilege, polluting the holy land with the presence of infidels and engaging non-Muslims to join in a war against fellow Muslims. The sudden influx of Western forces and customs, including the presence of unveiled women, angered the extremists.

The war also prompted political rumblings. Why, it was asked, was

Saudi Arabia spending so much on arms when it could not defend itself unaided? The huge bill, which Riyadh is still paying, also led to a short-term cash crisis, bankrupting many small businesses, and provoking criticism not only of the lavish spending of the 4,000-strong Royal Family, but of the dominance of the House of Saud, especially among tribal rivals previously bought off by prosperity.

## America pledges to keep military presence in Gulf

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT  
AND IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

### AFTERMATH

AMERICA vowed it would not leave the oil-rich Gulf and placed its many personnel there on maximum alert yesterday after a lorry bomb ripped through a Saudi Arabian military complex housing foreigners, killing at least 19 Americans and seriously wounding 64 others. In all, almost 400 people were treated for light injuries.

Tuesday night's no-warning blast was the most deadly attack on a US target in the Middle East since the 1983 suicide bomb against a barracks in Beirut killed 241 marines and drove the American military out of Lebanon.

In scenes of devastation eerily reminiscent of that attack, the work of a radical Shia Muslim bomber, Saudi rescue workers equipped with cranes and bulldozers yesterday continued the search for survivors from the eight-storey residential complex on the King Abdul Aziz air base in Khobar, near Dhahran in eastern Saudi Arabia.

Nearby was a crater 35ft deep and 45ft wide left by the blast, which was caused by an estimated five tonnes of explosive loaded on to a 5,000-gallon fuel lorry.

Speaking at the White House yesterday, President Clinton gave an official account of the bombing, explaining that Saudi police were immediately suspicious of a petrol tanker which pulled up outside the security perimeter of the US base.

Mr Clinton said they alerted an American patrol and began warning occupants of nearby buildings. As the patrol approached the vehicle, two men jumped from the cab and fled. Within a couple of minutes, the bomb exploded. No person or group had claimed responsibility.

It can be argued that Americans still do not take sufficiently stringent anti-terrorist precautions, even after the World Trade Centre and Oklahoma City bombings. Concrete barriers and frequent patrols had been installed at the Dhahran base after terrorists drove up to the door of a Saudi military training headquarters in Riyadh in November and exploded a car bomb. Five Americans and two Indians were killed.

But the barriers were only

35 yards from the barracks. The 500-kilobomb of Tuesday's explosion sheared off the front of the high-rise building.

William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, claimed on American television yesterday that without the barriers there would have been "many, many more fatalities".

Norman Schwarzkopf, the retired US Army general, commanded the American-led coalition based in Saudi Arabia during the 1991 Gulf War. As rescue workers dug frantically with bare hands in the blistering desert heat yesterday, he told NBC television: "I think it would be a tragic mistake if we were to pull, pitch and run. We have to show them that we are tougher than they are."

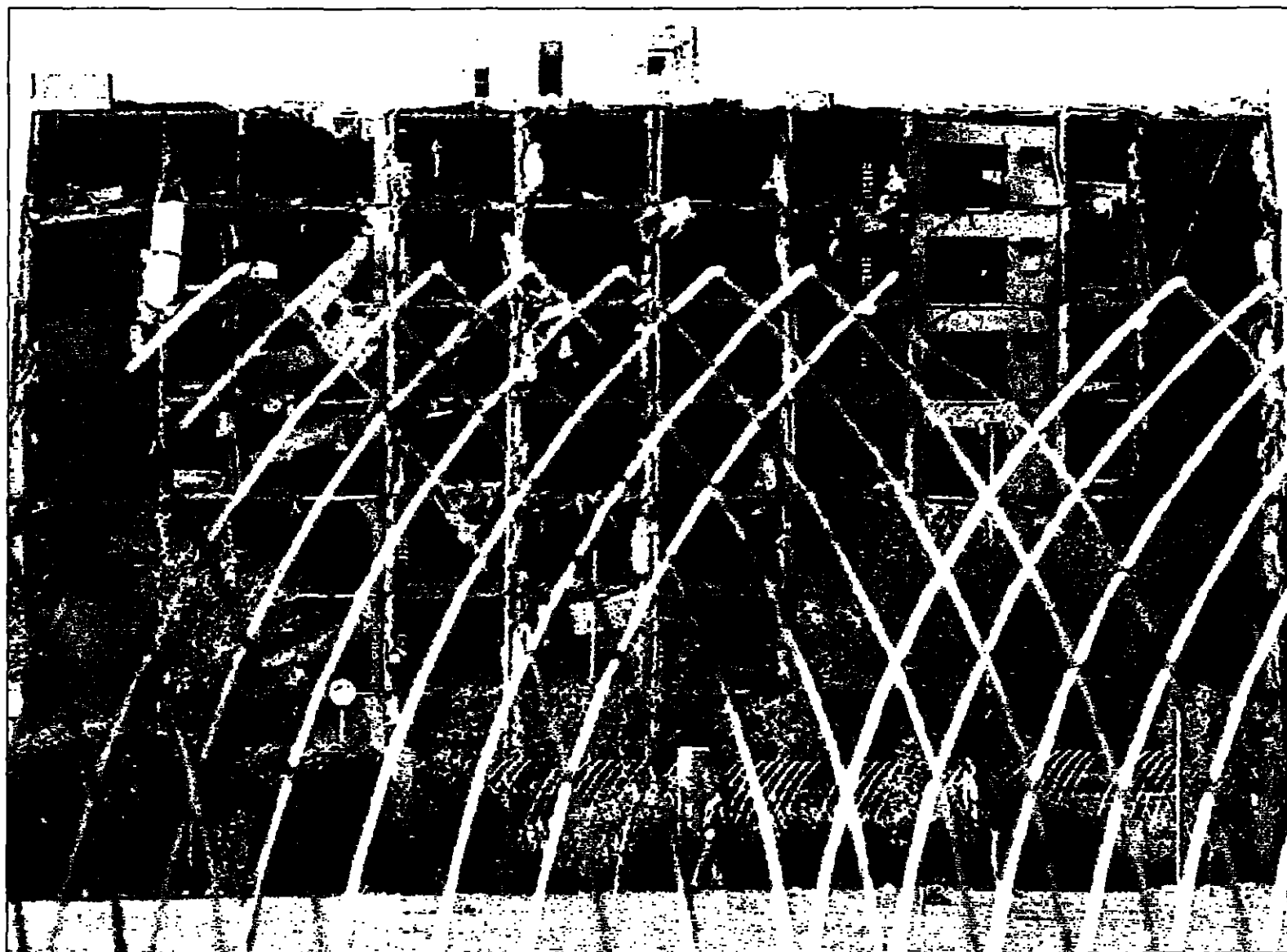
Mike McCurry, the White House spokesman, confirmed there were no plans to reduce the American military presence, saying: "It is a fundamental tenet of American foreign policy that our presence in that part of the world helps limit the conflict and the tension that does exist."

After talks in Jerusalem with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, who later flew to visit survivors, Israel's President Weizman blamed Iran for the attack. Other regional security experts said it was more likely to have been Sunni Muslim Saudi fanatics trained in Afghanistan and known as "The Afghanis".

There are 2,000 Americans at the Dhahran base, including pilots flying in "Operation Southern Watch", the mission to enforce the no-fly zone over southern Iraq. Other US personnel include Patriot anti-missile operators, air ground crews, and communications specialists.

Residents there said military personnel from America, Britain, France and Saudi Arabia occupied 50 buildings on the 400-building complex. Saudi families were living in the rest.

Leading article, page 19



The wreckage of the American-occupied apartment building at the air base in Dhahran which took the force of Tuesday's bomb attack

## Western task force keeps daily watch on Iraq

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

### AIR PATROLS

THE King Abdul Aziz air base at Dhahran has been the centre of American-led coalition force activities since the end of the 1991 Gulf War.

However, so sensitive is the continuing presence of US, British and French aircraft and military personnel there, five years after the war, that even the usually informative American Defence Department officials are reluctant to give precise numbers.

Nevertheless, since the war ended the three nations have used Dhahran to launch daily "no-fly zone" combat air patrols over southern Iraq, south of the 32nd parallel. Operation Southern Watch is carried out by the Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia based in the Gulf

under the direction of US Central Command. The force is commanded by Major-General Kurt Anderson of the US Air Force, stationed at Riyadh.

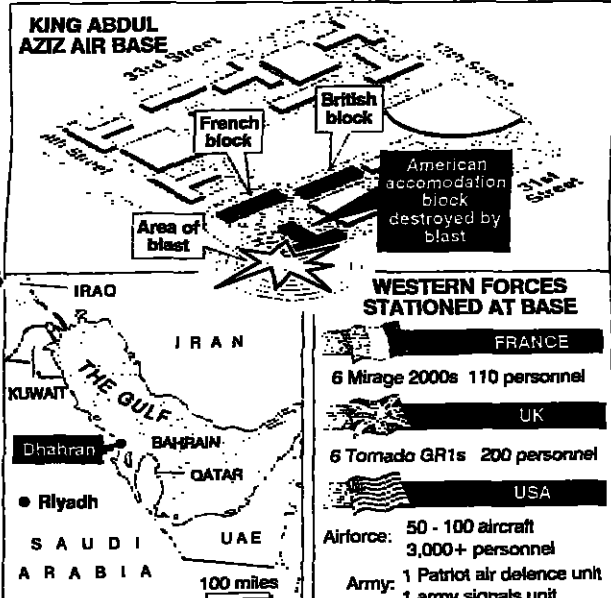
Apart from enforcing the no-fly zone, it is capable of

conducting an air campaign against Iraqi targets if Baghdad needs to be compelled to comply with United Nations inspections.

Although assets are based at different locations in the Arabian Gulf region, all the British and French aircraft are at Dhahran. Britain has six

Tornado GR1 bombers and about 200 RAF personnel at the base. France has six Mirage 2000 and 110 air force personnel. Their servicemen sleep in blocks about 300 yards from the American accommodation building which took the full force of the bomb on Tuesday night. There were

serious concerns last night over the security breach. Western diplomatic sources in Saudi Arabia said the perimeter was normally heavily guarded and yet the terrorists were able to park a lorry bomb within 35 yards of the accommodation compound, known as Khobar Towers.



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## Christopher spurned by Cairo

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER

WARREN CHRISTOPHER, the US Secretary of State, found himself the target of Arab scorn yesterday when he arrived in Cairo having failed to secure any significant concessions from Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister.

A scheduled joint news conference after talks with President Mubarak of Egypt was scrapped without explanation and Cairo's semi-official papers - which faithfully reflect the Egyptian leader's views - launched a broadside against America.

The main daily *al-Ahram* accused Mr Christopher of blindly supporting Mr Netanyahu as he tore away the foundations of five years of Arab-Israeli peace-making, laid at the 1991 peace conference in Madrid. "In the strangest press conference Netanyahu cancels all international agreements... and Christopher supports him," the paper declared in a front-page headline.

Jerusalem: Mr Netanyahu blamed Syria yesterday for a border attack in the Jordan valley, launched from Jordan, which killed three Israeli soldiers and wounded two others.

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Clinton declares there is no economic security unless industrial world stands up to forces of hatred

# G7 vow to pursue terrorists

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER  
IN LYONS  
AND IAN BRODIE  
IN WASHINGTON

JOHN MAJOR and President Clinton will discuss today international measures to track down the perpetrators of the bombing in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

The Prime Minister will repeat the offer, made immediately after the bombing, for British assistance in the search for those responsible. He is also planning to bring Mr Clinton up to date on the latest developments in the Northern Ireland peace process after the Manchester bombing and to urge him to maintain the tough line he has taken against Sinn Féin.

The two leaders are to hold urgent talks in Lyons this afternoon shortly before the Group of Seven summit of the world's leading industrial nations gets under way.

The Dhahran blast has propelled terrorism up the agenda of the three-day gathering. Mr Major and Mr



A security sniffer dog at the G7 building in Lyons

Clinton are preparing to consider the effectiveness of proposals demanded last year at the G7 summit in Nova Scotia for better co-operation and the measures agreed at the international summit on terrorism at Sharm el Sheikh.

President Clinton, admitting he could think of little else in the wake of the Saudi bombing, said yesterday that he would make the defeat of international terrorism his

priority at the G7 meeting. "My first order of business will be to focus the strength and energy of the G7 on the continuing fight against terrorism," he said in a speech on the White House lawn.

"I will say to my G7 partners what I say to my fellow Americans: we cannot have economic security in a global economy unless we can stand against these forces of terrorism. The United States will lead the way and we expect our allies to walk with us hand in hand. We cannot tolerate this kind of conduct."

He said that the Dhahran attack underscored the struggle of all who believe in tolerance, freedom and security. The world faced a new peril that included rogue states such as Iran and Iraq, drug smugglers, those who deal in weapons of mass destruction and terrorists who strike not just in Saudi Arabia but also in the Tokyo subway, on the streets of London, in Israel and in America's heartland. Usually, he said, the instigators were "in the para-

lysing grip of religious, ethnic and racial hatred."

To meet these threats, he hoped to expand the US initiative launched at last year's G7 summit with a package of 40 recommendations to combat terrorism and organised crime. They include a "no where to hide" extradition agreement and new procedures to deal with forged travel documents and the smuggling of illegal aliens. "Defeating these organised forces of destruction is one of the most important challenges our country faces," he said.

Mr Major condemned the Saudi bombing as an appalling act of pure evil. "I very much hope they find out who did it so that they can be punished," he declared.

However, the bombing is unlikely to prevent a serious clash between Mr Clinton and most of the other leaders over proposed American sanctions that could damage companies doing business with Libya, Iran and Cuba.

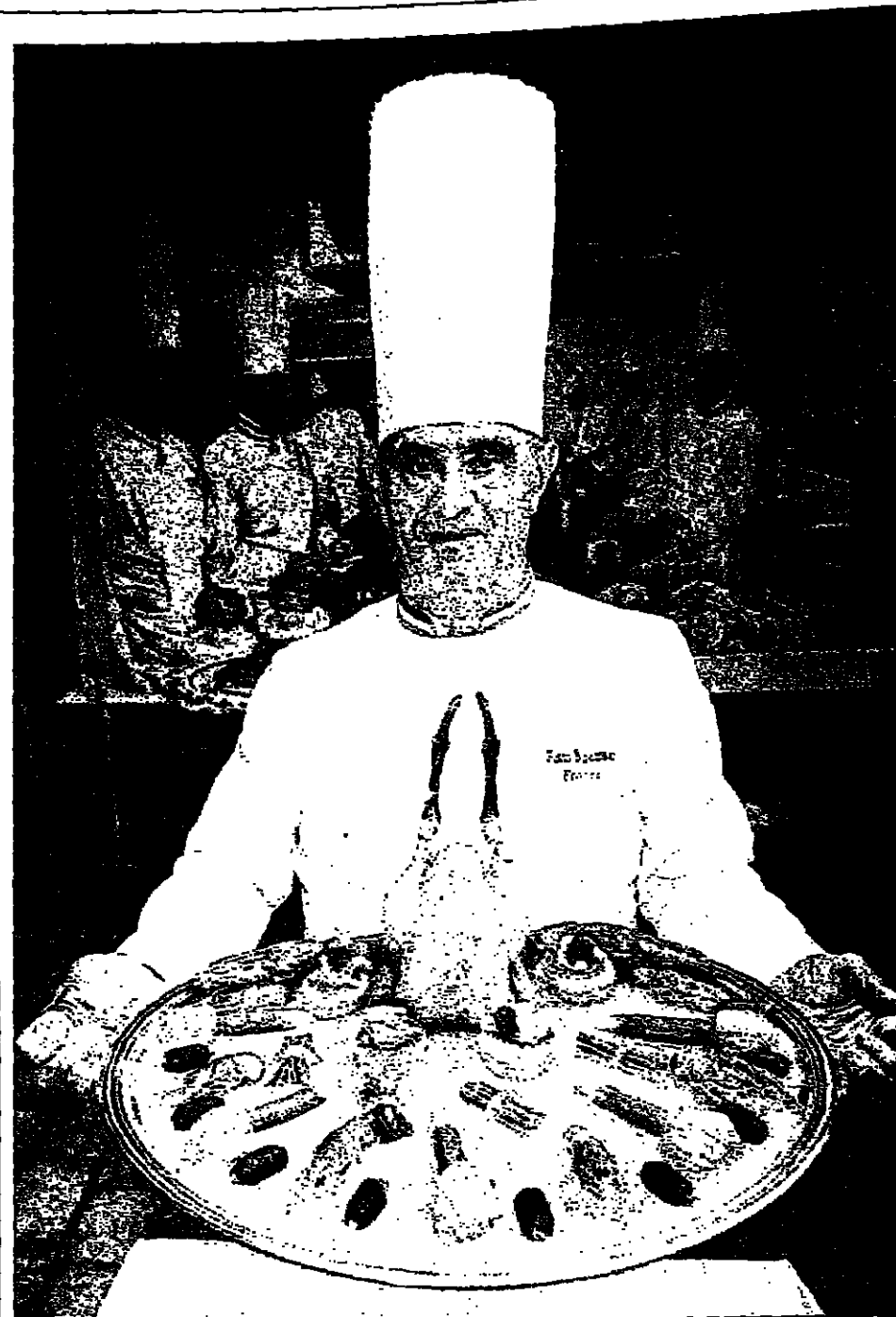
Mr Major will be among those protesting strongly to

Mr Clinton about the "extra-territorial" effect on the proposals for legal action in America against foreign companies and their executives.

The European Union summit in Florence last weekend threatened retaliation against America over the so-called Helms-Burton law which would punish non-US companies doing business with Cuba and similar legislation dealing with Iran and Libya. Jacques Santer, the European Commission President, told Mr Clinton last week it was wrong for America to attack its partners to reach its adversaries.

Although the summit communiqué almost certainly will fudge the sanctions dispute, President Chirac of France, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and Jean Chrétien, the Canadian Prime Minister, are also determined to raise their objections.

A British diplomat said yesterday: "We are waiting anxiously to learn of the President's intentions over the implementation of this law."



Paul Bocuse at his restaurant outside Lyons with his latest creation, G7 chicken, which combines specialties from the seven countries taking part in the summit

## Chef makes diplomatic entrée

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

PAUL BOCUSE, France's most celebrated chef, yesterday unveiled his latest culinary invention as leaders attending the summit of the Group of Seven industrialised nations in Lyons prepared to discuss the global economy.

M Bocuse will be preparing *Coq de Bresse Truffe G7 à la française* (French-style truffle-stuffed chicken) at his restaurant at Collonges-au-Mont-d'Or outside Lyons, as the city's chefs try to outdo one another in culinary inventiveness.

The G7 agenda includes discussion of markets, jobs,

the Third World and welfare, while the menu at tonight's six-course "working dinner" for heads of state, which is being produced by four three-star Michelin chefs, features such weighty matters as *Ravioli de légumes de Savoie*, *Quenelles aux écrevisses* and *Volaille de Bresse* washed down with Pouilly-Fuissé and Mouton champagne.

Official, for which Lyons is famous, is notably absent from the summit menus in the light of the "mad cow" crisis, but the city is going out of its way to ensure that whatever the political results, the

hordes of journalists and participants who are attending the three-day summit will not leave hungry.

Since March the local authorities have deployed 12 sanitary inspectors to ensure that local hostilities are meeting the required hygiene standards.

The inspectors found something to complain about in 83 of the 300 establishments checked, including a few isolated cases where British beef was still on offer — precisely the kind of undiplomatic entrée that the city is desperate to avoid.

## Chirac to push for BSE research cash

BY BEN MACINTYRE

PRESIDENT CHIRAC announced yesterday he would press fellow world leaders to increase funding for medical research into epidemics such as "mad cow" disease, Aids and Ebola virus at the Lyons summit of the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations.

In an interview published yesterday, the French President said that battling such epidemics should be made a priority, and gave a warning that "other diseases may be waiting in the shadows". He also singled out hepatitis C as a crucial area of medical research. "It is urgent that the major powers are aware of this problem at the highest political levels. The G7 summit gives us an opportunity," M Chirac said, adding that research into epidemic viruses and bacteria had been neglected in recent years.

The crisis over "mad cow" disease (BSE) has proved particularly devastating for farm-

ers in France, where beef sales have dropped by up to 40 per cent, according to latest figures. France's largest farm union yesterday condemned the European Union aid plan for beef producers as unsatisfactory and said that extra compensation was needed.

M Chirac also criticised America yesterday for failing to give sufficient help to developing countries and confirmed that he would make aid for the Third World a central issue at the summit. "The current trend is for major nations, particularly the US, to pull out. This is unacceptable," M Chirac said.

His Foreign Minister, Hervé de Charette, said "the growth of selfishness of rich countries is becoming unbearable". He noted that while France and Japan give the largest amounts in development aid, the proportion of gross domestic product that America donates is dwindling.

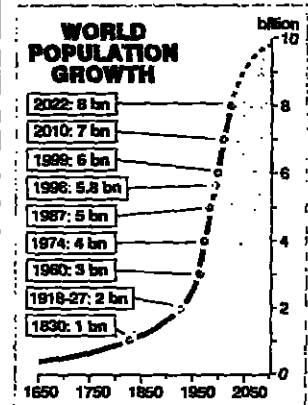
## Bosnia faces sanctions

London: A threat could be issued at the G7 summit to reimpose sanctions on Serbia and on the Bosnian Serbs if Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, is not removed from power, Western diplomats said yesterday.

The summit, being attended by the five powers co-ordinating policy on Bosnia — America, Russia, France,

Germany and Britain — could act as early as next week if Dr Karadzic has not quit. Sanctions were lifted after November's Dayton peace accords were signed.

Dr Karadzic, indicted by the United Nations war crimes tribunal in The Hague, has defied efforts to remove him before Bosnia's elections, due in September.



## Survival alert over 'population of 10bn'

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE  
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A BALLOONING world population is taking such a heavy toll of the planet's resources that it is putting the survival of humankind in jeopardy, according to an international group of experts.

The number of human beings reached one billion in 1830, three billion by 1960 — and is now at 5.8 billion. Although the growth rate has begun to taper off, the planet is expected to have more than 10 billion people by the middle of the next century.

Economic systems need transforming to prevent rampant poverty, social divisions and environmental catastrophe, according to a three-year study by the Independent Commission on Population and Quality of Life, a body of politicians, economists, scientists and environmentalists.

The commission's report, *Caring for the Future*, launched in London yesterday, calls on governments to help to stabilise population growth by "massive efforts in health, education and the use of development assistance".

The group also wants a charge on all international financial deals, yielding up to £97 billion a year to pay for projects agreed at recent United Nations conferences on poverty and the environment. *Caring for the Future*, published by Oxford University Press, £7.99.

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Food for thought



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The economic reforms and the change in the electoral system are linked, but not quite in the way that the casual observer might sup-

pan into the fire. The incoming National (Conservative) Government was even more committed than its Labour predecessors to the New Right reforms. The voters' confusion and unease at this sequence of events was compounded by

Hence the appeal of being able to throw sand in the works. Offered the chance of electoral reform, the electorate voted for the chance to slow down the pace of change. MMP is one of the more bizarre options among PR

Neither main party has shown much capacity to adapt

The prospect of a Peters-dominated government has made many people very nervous. He has campaigned on a strongly nationalist platform, making it clear that he is hostile to the inflow of overseas investment and to those, largely Asian, immigrants who bring it with them. Perhaps the only certainty is that the post-election situation will be uncertain, possibly unstable. New Zealand warchers may be in for a bumpy ride.

□ The author is Vice-Chancellor of Waikato University.

**Leading article, page 19**



**FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON**

The start of the highly charged hearings were remarkable for the way past and present White House officials strove to present themselves as incompetent, the alternative being to admit that they had obtained the files for nefarious purposes.

But William Clinger, the committee's Republican chairman, cast the affair in a much more sinister light, suggesting Mr Livingston had been doing the dirty work of someone at the top of the White House.

He demanded to know why Mr Livingston — "a political operative with a dubious background" — had been given such a sensitive post, who employed him, and how he had escaped dismissal despite

An FBI official who worked at the White House just before the dismissals has told congressional investigators that officials pumped him for confidential background information on Mr. Dale, and Mr. Clinger produced other documents showing "the White House was engaged in an effort to provide as much damaging information [as possible] about Billy Dale and his colleagues."

Despite the files issue and other scandals besetting the White House, Mr Clinton continues to maintain a 20-point lead over Bob Dole, a *New York Times* poll showed yesterday.



FROM INIGO GILMORE IN LINDELANI, NEAR DURBAN

Within moments the two sides of rival supporters were exchanging abuse and stones and only the timely interven-

Perched on a hillside peppered with palm trees and encircled by sugar cane, the tented polling station was set amid cement houses of Lindelani, a dusty township 40 miles along the north coast from Durban, which in recent years has come to resemble countless other trouble spots

The ugly standoff and rhetoric in Lindelani appeared to fly in the face of recent upbeat talk in KwaZulu/Natal about the shift towards greater tolerance and peace before the twice-delayed poll.

Yet violence and killings have persisted in several areas in the run-up to polling day. 13 election candidates have been killed. Mary de Haas, an academic and violence monitor, said that under such circumstances it was unrealistic to expect these elections, especially in rural areas, to reflect the real will of the voters. "Anyone who has any contact on the ground knows that the situation has not really changed."

**William Rees-Mogg, page 18**

Tens of thousands of mourners followed the bier as it left the main Athens Orthodox Cathedral. Ironically, the coffin of the man who spent most of his political career fighting the military establishment, was borne to its grave strapped to a gun carriage. Four ships full of mourners sailed overnight from Crete, a socialist bastion.

Islamic militants of the Taliban militia poured more than 300 rockets and shells into Kabul, killing 60 civilians and injuring more than 100, in one of the worst assaults in their year-long siege of the Afghan capital (Michael Dynes writes). The barrage coincided with the return to the city of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who resumed his office as Prime Minister 30 months after his abortive attempt to seize power from President Rabbani.

**Paris:** *Unzer Wort* ("Our Word"), the world's last Yiddish daily newspaper, will close at the end of this month (Ben Macintyre writes). The newspaper, published in Paris since the end of the Second World War, was killed by rising costs and competition from larger French-language rivals. Several Yiddish periodicals still survive and a weekly newspaper is published in the United States.

**New York:** The decomposing bodies of Arthur "T Boy" Ross, 47, the brother of the singer Diana Ross, and an unidentified woman were found in a dilapidated suburban house in Detroit with three starving pit bull terriers (Tom Rhodes writes). The couple had been suffocated and police are seeking two people who had rented the house.

**FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG**

Acting in part on information supplied by *The Times*, Chris Patten, the colony's Governor, ordered an investigation leading to today's report. The plight of the children forms part of the drama of the remaining 17,000 boat people in Hong Kong's detention camps, most of whom are refusing voluntary repatriation.

The girl, who was born in one of the camps and is named Hong Kong, was among a dozen children separated from their parents during the breakout from the Whitehead Camp on May 10. Brian Bresnihan, the senior Security Branch officer in charge of the Vietnamese refugees, told *The*

## Mass death sen

The Correctional Services Division [who staff the detention camps] admit they are fully responsible."

It has now emerged that some division officers, who had been repeatedly told by

**entence in China**

reported. The agency did not specify how many had been given the death penalty but, in common with other agencies, reported that at least 50 people had been immediately executed. (AP)

Hong Kong's parents that she was missing, knew that she had been taken to a prison when she was found wandering outside the camp during the breakout. These officers lied to their superiors, who then wrote a report for Mr Bresnahan.

The parents contacted Pam Baker, a British lawyer in Hong Kong who wrote to Mr Bresnihan. He was also given a letter written by Hong Kong's father to Amnesty International, saying he had appealed in vain to the guards to find his daughter.

Mr Bresnihan said yesterday the officers' punishment had not yet been decided.

**Wall of steel, page 18**

**Madrid:** The Basque terrorist group Eta yesterday threatened attacks against competitors in this year's Tour de France if the organisers do not "recognise the identity of the Basques as a nation" before the race begins on Saturday (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

The threat, which came a day after Spain's parliamentary political parties unanimously rejected an Eta offer of a week-long truce, was made in a letter to the Tour's director in Paris, Jean Marie Leblanc. Hundreds of posters have also appeared on streets in Pamplona, stating that the Tour was not welcome in "Euskal Herria", the nationalist name for the Basque country.

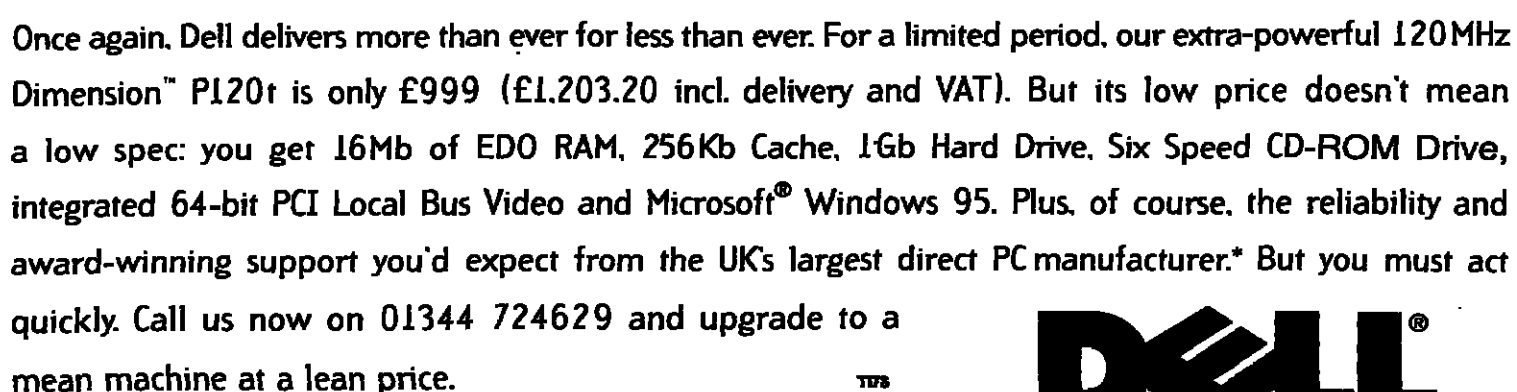
**FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN WESTBORO, MASSACHUSETTS**

**ASTRA AB**, the Swedish drug company, sacked its American chief executive yesterday after allegations that he embezzled \$2 million (£1.3 million), pressured female workers into having sex and fostered a corporate culture of hard partying.

Astra also dismissed a second executive, and two others resigned. The company said it was co-operating with government agencies investigating the charges.

"Today's action brings to an end an unfortunate and distasteful chapter in the history of Astra USA," said C.J. Johansson, executive vice-president of the Swedish parent

**New York:** The decomposing bodies of Arthur "T Boy" Ross, 47, the brother of the singer Diana Ross, and an unidentified woman were found in a dilapidated suburban house in Detroit with three starving pit bull terriers (Tom Rhodes writes). The couple had been suffocated and police are seeking two people who had rented the house.



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Why the elderly do best in their own house

## Home sweet home

THE IDEA that a judge could be loved by the general public would surprise old-fashioned lawyers and their clients, but Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, has a special place in the country's affections.

Lord Denning is 97 and, as he proudly adds, a third. At the end of life, as in the nursery, every month counts and is recorded. Despite his age Lord Denning talks as fluently as ever about his long life: his childhood, schooling, the army on the Western Front in the First World War, and the law. He still remembers, and describes with remarkable clarity, his visits to his mother's home in Lincoln. For although he was brought up in Wessex, and still speaking with a Wessex burr, it was his mother who, hardened by east-coast winds, was the dominant force in his early family life.

Lord Denning is becoming physically frail but is still independent. He is able to walk for a few steps in the garden each day with the help of a stick in one hand, and his other arm held by a helper. The former judge's life centres on his house, where he claims to have the best private law library in the country. At home he enjoys entertaining his friends and family in his drawing-room, and still insists on going upstairs to bed. Unfortunately all three rooms — his library, his sitting-room and his bedroom — around which his days revolve are on different levels, and separate flights of stairs have to be negotiated to go from one to the other.

For a man who was a Royal Engineer and had built bridges and tunnelled in dark trenches on the battlefield during the final advance in France after August 1918, the problem of the stairs didn't seem insurmountable. Lord Denning decided that if he



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

was to stay at home he would have to invest in stair lifts, and his house now has three which transport him in safety from his books to his friends or to bed.

Fractures from accidents in the home are a constant threat to older people, and their seriousness is underrated. No part of the house is more dangerous than its stairs and steps: the installation of the lift reduces this danger. The statistics of falls are frightening. Usually it is the hip which breaks, and between 12 and 20 per cent of these patients die within a year; the greater the age the greater the mortality. But many of those

who survive both the fall and surgery are thereafter unable to live without nursing help.

The Dennings are a long-lived family. One brother was killed 80 years ago this month on the Somme while serving in the Lincolnshire regiment, and another was killed in the Navy; but of those who survived the war, one became a general who lived to be 95 and the other, an admiral, died when he was nearly 80.

There are many similar families, and people, who have every hope of punishing their pension funds, and being happy and fulfilled, if only they can find the right place to spend their old age.

The increasing cost of living in old people's homes, which under the new regulations can devour a lifetime's savings as well as the cash from the sale of the family house in a year or two, makes modification of an existing house so that it may be accommodated a financial as well as medical priority. Living at home, with friends and family visiting, books to read and a garden to admire, will keep Alzheimer's at bay by providing the necessary intellectual stimulation.

## X-ray workers and their offspring



RADIOLOGISTS, radiographers and others working in X-ray departments take great precautions to avoid unnecessary exposure to radiation. Everyone in contact with X-rays wears protective clothing and shelters behind screens during the taking of the film.

It has been feared for at least 40 years that the possible danger of radiation might not only affect those who work with X-rays — Madame Curie was one of the early casualties — but also their children.

Research workers have recently investigated the health of the children of more than 6,500 radiographers and have published their survey in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*.

The results of the research are reassuring. The children of radiographers seem to be no more likely than those born to comparable groups to suffer from congenital malformation, from leukaemia or from other childhood malignancies. The absence of any correlation between radiography and childhood disease applied equally well whether the radiographers were working full or part-time.

## New treatment for a taboo problem



ANAL fissures are rarely, if ever, discussed in the health pages of magazines or newspapers, yet they are frequently a reason why patients visit their doctors. These acutely painful anal tears or ulcers bleed and cause the muscles of the sphincter to go into spasm, which increases the discomfort and prevents its healing.

As a first line of treatment the patient is given mild laxatives such as Fybogel and bland suppositories. Local anaesthetics were once commonly prescribed but these can result in rashes and other problems of sensitivity. Previously if the fissure became chronic, surgery was recommended. The surgeon cut a few muscle fibres in the sphincter so that spasm was prevented and the tear could heal.

The *British Journal of Surgery* has recently reported an alternative treatment. Instead of cutting the muscle fibres, the patient is prescribed an ointment containing glyceryl trinitrate, usually used to control angina. This relaxes the muscle and the fissure heals. The trial was a small one but the results were considered good enough to warrant more extensive research.

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Jackie Jack today and, below, in her Sixties modelling heyday: "Life's too short to be angry. I have a wonderful family and millions of friends"

## United in the war on cancer

A Sixties model is one of a group refusing to give in to myeloma. Jeremy Laurance reports

She has appeared on catwalks across the world but today Jackie Jack is on a different stage. She is not posing at the camera, sashaying down the street or swinging thigh-high boots across the arm of a sofa. She is describing what it is like to confront her own mortality.

Jackie has myeloma, a rare cancer of the bone marrow, and so does her audience — 300 fellow sufferers and their spouses meeting for the first time at the Royal College of Physicians. There is a unique bond, a compulsive appetite for information that might help in their battle for life.

As a fashion model in the 1960s, Jackie — née Bowyer — was equally dazzled by the flashy glamour of East End hoodlums and the opulent style of West End aristocrats. She drank cocktails in New York with the Queen Mother and waterskied in St Tropez with the Great Train Robbers. Her husband, Peter Scott — the second of four — was a cat burglar who earlier this year published his autobiography, *Gentleman Thief*.

"Modelling was a different sort of business in those days. There was a pub in Belgrave called The Star. You'd see the Burtons in there, Richard Harris, an inspector from Scotland Yard in one corner, a burglar and a model in another."

Jackie, whose looks were once compared to those of the Italian filmstar Claudia Cardinale, was Vidal Sassoon's house model and did long seasons at Harrods. When her career wound down in the 1970s she had a baby — the first of three — and devoted herself to her family. Then, in 1993, myeloma struck.

Myeloma is a fatal cancer. There is no cure. It affects more than 3,000 people in the UK each year. Some die quickly while others survive for many years. But every sufferer knows the toll it is taking.

It is how sufferers cope with this knowledge, and with the disease, that differs. For this event, Jackie has

agreed to be interviewed in front of the audience by Professor Anthony Clare, giving a live performance of the BBC Radio 4 programme *In the Psychiatrist's Chair*.

How had she felt when she learnt she had cancer? "I am a very positive person. There are many things in life you can't change — you can only help them. You have to take things as they come."

But the diagnosis must have come as a shock? "No, it was a relief. I had 24 fractures in two years. Every time I coughed or sneezed I would break another rib. I was fed up dragging myself round private specialists. I thought, oh well, at least I've got something."

Was she angry? "Life's too short. I have a wonderful husband and a family and millions of friends. There is no point in not making the most of it."

Her turbulent life has given her the emotional strength to deal with this crisis. Yellowing newspaper cuttings from the 1960s reveal a woman who played fast and loose. On one occasion she was prosecuted for obstructing police officers chasing her errant husband by clinging to a door. "I've had a lot of hassle and upset, but if I have a problem on Monday, by Wednesday I am looking for the next one."

It is a bravura performance delivered with zest and good humour. But as Dr Clare invites comments from the floor, the atmosphere is subdued, as if no one can quite match Jackie's feckless attitude.

"We were surprised by the lack of criticism," says Dr Ray Powles, in charge of the myeloma unit at the Royal Marsden hospital, London, and organiser of the conference. "Perhaps people felt they wanted to be positive because this is the first time such an event has been held outside the United States. The idea is to help sufferers and their families to become more actively involved in the decisions that are taken about their treatment and care."



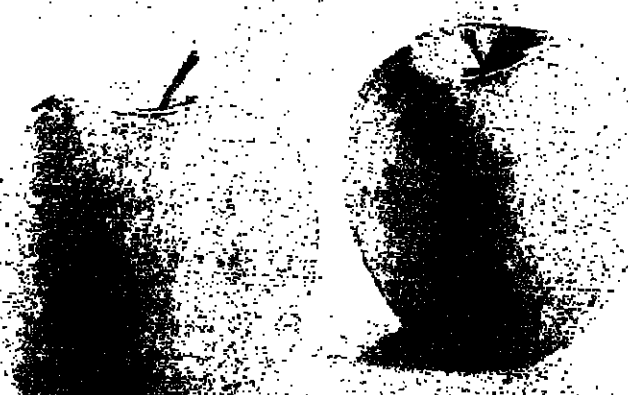
Members of the International Myeloma Foundation flew over from America to help the Royal Marsden to organise the event. Susi Novis, its president, whose husband Brian was co-founder of the foundation before his death from myeloma aged 33, says: "When my husband was diagnosed we knew nothing about the disease. We thought, what the hell is it and what do we do about it? Then, later, we thought, wouldn't it be a great idea for patients to meet with the professionals to discuss it?"

The foundation has now held six seminars throughout the US. Such has been the enthusiasm for the idea that a dozen American sufferers flew here

to share the British experience. Ms Novis says: "You can see that you are not alone. The way to feel better as a patient is to find out about the disease so you can make choices. But everybody's agenda — what they want out of life — is different."

Encouraging news that a cure may be in sight comes from Dr Powles. Until ten years ago, no one with myeloma went into remission. Now half of all patients at the Marsden do. "In all the blood cancers the starting point for a cure was getting patients into remission. Then you can start to devise strategies. We are where we were with leukaemia in the 1970s, and we would expect a cure to follow."

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THE SUNDAY



# Closing ranks on Eton's outcast

Was Anthony Chenevix-Trench fired as Head Master because he indulged in the cane and the bottle? Marcus Scriven reports

The epitaph, belated, ugly and unexpected, appeared two years ago. It was then, in an authorised history of Eton, that its Vice Provost, Tim Card, disclosed that the late Anthony Chenevix-Trench had not resigned as the school's Head Master — as had been claimed at the time — but had been forced out.

Eton's Fellows, Card explained, had come to believe that Chenevix-Trench was irredeemably flawed by a predilection for the cane — made harder to mask by his liking for the bottle. "He regarded corporal punishment not as the last resort but almost as the first," wrote Card, who recorded that he had once been heard to remark: "A good thing the NSPCC does not know about this."

His presence at the school threatened scandal. So he had to go.

His former pupils — from Eton, Shrewsbury, Bradford and Fettes — were divided. David Tredinnick, an Old Etonian, now Tory MP for Bosworth, said his Head Master had been "on the side of the angels". Paul Foot, who had known him at Shrewsbury, called him an "absolutely revolting and poisonous man, a sadist and a pervert".

Now Mark Peel, a master at Fettes, has written a biography of Chenevix-Trench in which he emerges as a complex figure: an exceptional pedagogue who doted on his pupils, a superb interviewer, who nevertheless lacked self-confidence, and desperately needed to be liked; an essentially conservative man who infuriated Old Etonian elements by minor reforms.

Born in 1919, Chenevix-Trench was reading Herodotus at six; ten years later, he won a scholarship from Shrewsbury to Christ Church, Oxford, where he was an accomplished runner and boxer, and at Oxford, where he

rowed for his college, the young man made light of the fact that he was only 5ft 4in tall. He joined the Royal Artillery and after the fall of Singapore spent three years as a POW, six months on the Burma Road, sustaining himself by translating *A Shropshire Lad* into Latin.

Those who met him on his return to Oxford found him a highly sociable, effervescent man, able to survive on very little sleep. He took an outstanding First, before returning to teach at Shrewsbury. He proved an inspirational master: theatrical and innovative — sometimes beginning a

sixth-form lesson with Swinburn or Housman, "before branching out into Ovid, Thucydides or Homer, quoting reams of their lines verbatim" — lucid and patient, and always demanding complete commitment from those in his charge.

Christ Church was ecstatic when it lured him back in 1951, boasting: "We have secured as our new permanent Mods don, in succession to his old tutor Mr Page, the one man we thought of as a worthy successor."

But within a year, frustrated that he could not shape his undergraduates' destiny in the way that he could a sixth former's, he returned to Shrewsbury as a housemaster, declining an invitation to be Headmaster of Charterhouse.

By 1955, he had been appointed Headmaster of Bradford. Eight years later, it was announced that he would succeed Robert Birley at Eton.

Expectations were immense. Trench had by then become renowned beyond the public school and Oxbridge world: Anthony Sampson made special mention of him while discussing headmasters in his *Anatomy of Britain*; and he was the only one to be appointed to the Robbins committee on higher education. Vincent Mulchrone wrote in the *Daily Mail*, in 1963: "I

believe I have met a prophet, a practical, pragmatic teacher, who has it in his heart to inspire and transform our society through our children."

Yet disaster followed. At Bradford, Chenevix-Trench had always set great store on knowing every boy in the school. At Eton (with 1,200 pupils) this was not only impossible, it was also resented by the housemasters who enjoyed great autonomy.

In these circumstances, his insecurity, his need to be liked, was disastrous. On occasions, he promised the same job to two or more masters; he wavered too long over decisions, and, having made them, failed to seek out sufficient support to ensure their implementation.



Happier days: Anthony Chenevix-Trench with his wife Elizabeth and their two children in 1958, left, and in his study as the newly installed Head Master of Eton in 1964

According to Mark Peel, the defining moment of his time at Eton came in December 1965 when he failed to convince

masters that the school should abandon the tail coat, despite having assured the sixth form that its disappearance was imminent. "I want brilliant young men from the East End," he had said of his intention to do away with the Eton caste. "How can I expect them to wear a tail coat?"

The incident seems to have wounded him deeply, if only because it impressed upon him that he was an outsider — the first Head Master who had been neither pupil nor teacher at the school.

One OE of the time recalls: "He wasn't, dare I say it, what I'd call a natural Etonian Head Master. He didn't have that easy manner which... is the distinguishing mark of the Old Etonian."

Perhaps for the first time, his diminutive stature gave

him pause for thought. On more than one occasion, he was mistaken for the butler. His nickname, Chummy, was more likely to be overlaid with mild contempt than affection. "The spectrum of Etonians is wider than I had expected," he once said. "The best are beyond praise. The worst are more bloody than one could possibly imagine."

His other reforms were better judged than his attempt to do away with the tail coat: subjects like English and geography were encouraged; boys were obliged to attend one service in chapel rather than two; a form of social service was introduced, with Etonians visiting the elderly or teaching immigrant children.

Inevitably, though, while these developments appeared intolerable to the old guard, they were inconsequential to Etonians growing up in the



Sixties. One recalls: "Everything was being questioned. We all wanted to grow our hair, we all wanted to smoke dope, to listen to the Rolling Stones playing in Hyde Park. He was on shifting ground but he had to hold the line."

In the end, it was unruliness in one house, leading to the expulsion of three boys, which proved Chenevix-Trench's undoing. Rather than remove the housemaster, he offered Eton's Provost, Lord Caccia, his own resignation. Caccia brushed it aside. When trouble flared in the house again, he sacked the housemaster. Walls were emblazoned with slogans demanding that Chenevix-Trench go.

It was characteristically maladroit management and, taken with the rumours about his propensity to beat his pupils, as well as incidents when he had apparently been

the worse for drink, it was enough to persuade the Fellows that he had lost his grip. In 1969, a letter to parents announced his "retirement".

Just how much Chenevix-Trench's taste for corporal punishment counted against him may never be known. According to Peel, there will certainly never be any agreement about what inspired it. "There are those who thought that it was simply what happened at the time: there are those who thought that he enjoyed it but so what? And there were those who thought there was something more sinister in it."

Peel's own conclusion is that there was "legitimate criticism: he would mix justice with enthusiasm".

It does not, however, eclipse his admiration for a man who, whatever his faults, believed

ferently in the capacity for good in all those whom he taught, and who so often helped them to release it.

Chenevix-Trench died, aged only 60, at Fettes a few weeks before he was due to retire. His abrupt departure from Eton had tainted his name with failure. But his career is more fairly judged by his many unheralded successes, when, in Peel's words, he found "the illusive spark which enabled each individual to find his special work".

Among the many former pupils at his funeral was David McAree, who flew back for it from the Far East. McAree's First at Oxford must have given Chenevix-Trench special satisfaction: it was only at his insistence that the boy had been accepted for Fettes, after another school expelled him.

● The Land of Lost Content by Mark Peel, Pentland Press, £16.99

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## THE SUNDAY TIMES NO WORRIES



Paul Hogan hasn't looked back since Crocodile Dundee. He hasn't looked forward either... Bryan Appleyard meets Hogues in Hollywood: at ease with life, image and career, as his new film *Flipper* prepares for UK release in August

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# Doubting Tony's fatal referendum

Magnus Linklater on Blair's  
retreat from Scottish devolution

There is no doubting the strength of John Major's feelings these days about the Union. Whenever he speaks about it — and he does so with increasing frequency — he is almost embarrassingly passionate. Defending the United Kingdom against the assaults of the reformers may be, for him, a relatively new cause (it was recommended to him by Ian Lang after the election in 1992), but like many a convert, he has embraced it with enthusiasm. This is one basic he is always happy to go back to.

The late John Smith was just as fervent about the need for change. His commitment to Scottish devolution was fundamental, and he used to surprise his colleagues by making it his central theme on unexpected occasions. Tony Blair, however, is less certain. It is a policy he has inherited, and which he has dutifully endorsed, but about which he has honest doubts. Not the least of these is whether it can be made to work. Hence the suggestion, which will become clearer today, that there might have to be a referendum on devolution within a few months of a Labour election victory. The idea would be to offer the voters a clear choice on a constitutional issue.

The idea may not be quite so crudely spelt out by Donald Dewar and George Robertson today, or by Tony Blair tomorrow. It is just one of many which is expected to

Alarm bells  
will  
now be  
ringing in  
Scotland

which each party can properly say that it offers a clear programme. If the voters don't want it, they have a means of registering their views. The details will then rest in the hands of politicians.

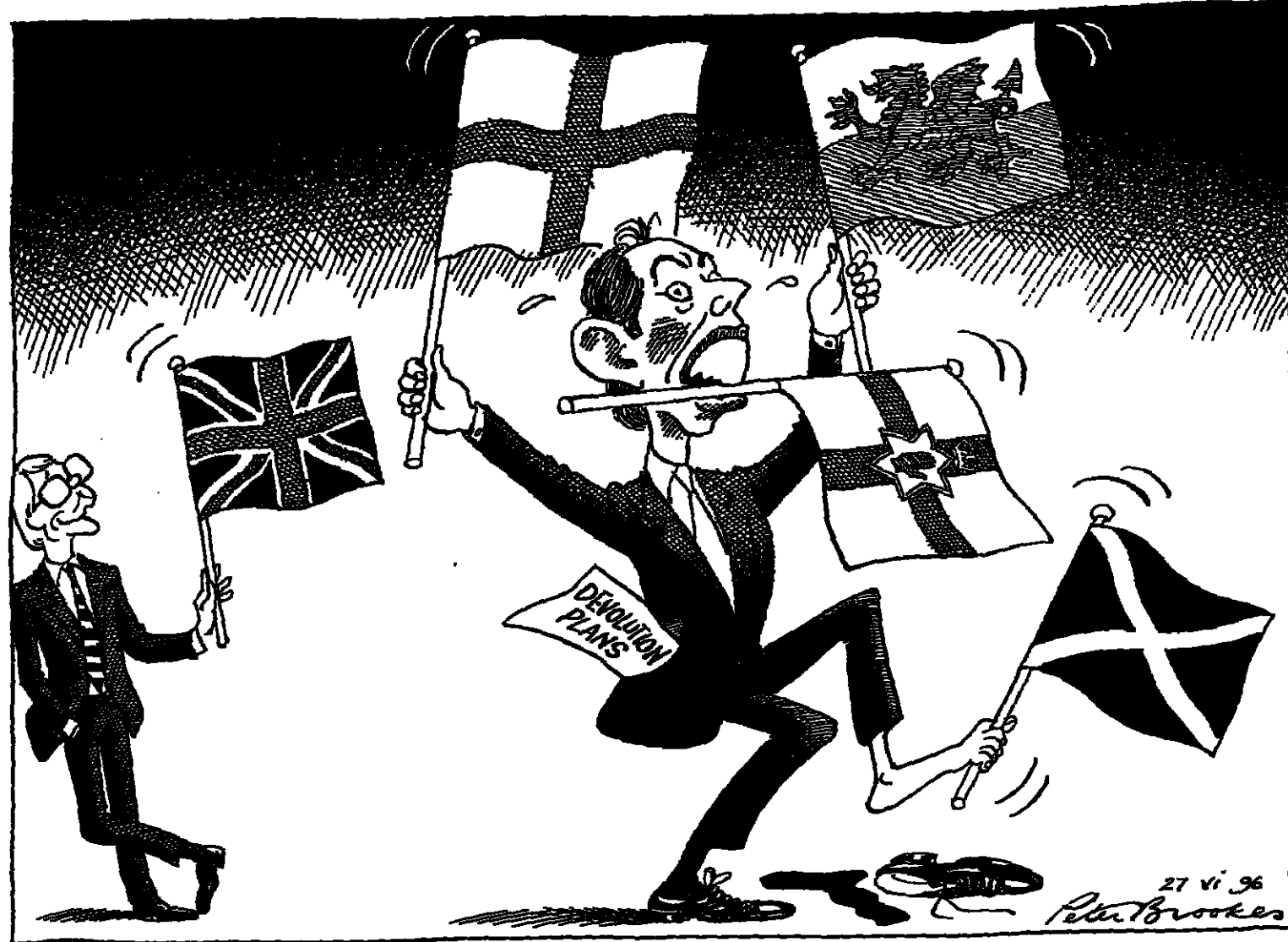
So why is Mr Blair introducing an extra dimension to a debate that is already in full spate? There are, of course, respectable reasons, and these will doubtless be elaborated by him tomorrow. The move will be presented as a way of throwing open the debate on a complex constitutional issue, with a White Paper or some such device allowing the electorate to think carefully before deciding whether it wishes to take such a drastic step.

At the same time, the move will be presented by the spin-doctors as a way of wrong-footing the Tories, depriving them of the advantage they have gained recently by banging on about the drawbacks of the "tartan tax". And behind the honest doubts, there is a means of pacifying those English MPs who are growing increasingly uneasy about the parliamentary time that will be needed to pilot through the legislation, and by the divisive arguments over the exact relationship between Westminster and Edinburgh, or Westminster and Cardiff.

It is perhaps this last question that has convinced Mr Blair that a holding operation may be necessary. If the Labour Party wins the election, the new intake of MPs will be almost wholly English. There may be a couple of seats to be grabbed back in Scotland, but that will be a small expansion compared to the new element brought in by a Labour majority in England. Very few of these new members will have devolution on their minds. They will be exercised about employment, the economy, the health service. The last thing they will want to discuss is the minutiae of the West Lothian question, or English regional assemblies. Yet if they are assured that all these will be thrashed out in the context of a referendum they will probably be pacified.

But that is not the way it will be seen in Scotland. Alarm bells will ring for those who despair at the memory of the 1979 referendum, when an amendment introduced by George Cunningham, the Labour MP for Inverclyde, stipulated that 40 per cent of the total electorate would have to vote yes before legislation could be implemented. They will point out that a majority of Scots actually voted yes last time, but that their views were ignored. They will see in any new conditions a fatal ambivalence about an apparently clear commitment. And they will wonder whether history is not beginning to repeat itself.

Memories are long in Scotland, and Mr Blair would do well to take note of this. What is needed now is a robust defence by Labour of a reform that is long overdue and eagerly awaited, rather than a thinly-disguised device for procrastination.



## Mandela's party is over

The Government in post-apartheid  
South Africa is refusing to face reality

Yesterday's election in Kwa-Zulu/Natal completes the process of electing post-apartheid assemblies in South Africa. President Nelson Mandela's visit to Britain next month will largely be a celebration of the transition from white supremacy to black majority rule, and of his leadership of the African National Congress (ANC). This is natural. The apartheid system was violent and unjust, and caused great inefficiency as well as much social suffering. It was also unstable. From the beginning, in the late 1940s, independent observers concluded that the apartheid structure could not survive. Most observers expected it to end in revolution and bloodshed.

There remains in the West a warm glow from having seen justice triumph over injustice, and there is, as there should be, great admiration for Nelson Mandela himself. That has led people to misunderstand both the strengths of the old regime, and the weaknesses of the new one. No one wishes to appear an apologist for racism and fascism.

Yet the apartheid regime, however hateful, had two important advantages. Because all were living under the same tyranny, the differences between black tribes tended to be suppressed. The ANC aimed to be supra-tribal in its composition, and to some extent it is. Nevertheless, as KwaZulu/Natal politics have shown, the Zulus' claim to independence in their own area remains a threat to the unity of South Africa. Chief Buthelezi and his Inkatha party are real political forces which represent the aspirations of large numbers of Zulus.

The more important strength of the apartheid system was the contribution of the white elite — and that is the point which is so hard to admit. South Africa under apartheid was a Third World black economy with a First World white economy superimposed upon it. The whites were not themselves completely free, but to a large extent they lived in an open market, democratic society subject to the rule of law, and with a substantial measure of free speech. It was the blacks who were oppressed.

This white society was able to reach much higher standards of economic efficiency than the leadership of other African countries or of Communist countries. One measure of the efficiency was that the blacks, although oppressed, enjoyed the highest standard of living in sub-Saharan Africa.

Black productivity under the apartheid managers was generally higher than it is now.

When a modern tyranny comes to an end, there may be a choice between the Gorbachev and the Deng Xiaoping models, between giving priority to democratic or to economic liberalisation. In South Africa that choice may never have been a real one. If the whites had tried to follow the Chinese model, and had seriously attempted to continue political apartheid while dismantling economic apartheid, they would have been forced to give up their political control.

Indeed, that is to some extent what they did try, but events moved much faster than expected. The ending of apartheid in South Africa was, as a result, much more like the ending of Communist power in Russia than like the economic reforms of China.

The economic consequences have so far been alarming for both whites and blacks. The best measure of the problem is the continued rise in South African unemployment. South Africa probably now has the highest unemployment of any substantial country. The European Union is one of the world's high-unemployment regions, with average levels above 10 per cent. South Africa is three times as high, with statistically identified unemployment at about 33 per cent, and total non-employment at around 40 per cent on some estimates. Even this alarming level is still rising quite sharply. Obviously, the great majority of the unemployed are black.

There are several explanations. One is that the part of the economy that created the jobs was the white part. Africanisation and the transfer of power have replaced many of the white managers, but not their job-creating ability. Another reason is put bluntly by an experienced observer: "South Africa now has the lowest productivity in the whole industrial or developing world, and the most expensive workforce."

This seems to be borne out by the unemployment figures, but it is also supported by international compar-

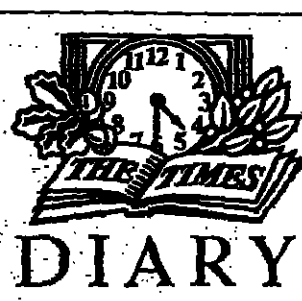
isons. Last December, Boston University published its survey of the competitiveness of 41 countries, judged by certain precise measurements. It put Britain in 14th place, with France 13th and Australia 15th. South Africa came 35th. It could perhaps be worse, but the detail was more depressing. "Of the 38 techniques evaluated... South Africa rates lowest of 41 countries in 29, and next to last in seven."

Apartheid left behind two particularly damaging legacies. South Africa is under-skilled, with only 11 per cent of the workforce highly skilled, and 53 per cent unskilled. The First World average is almost the reverse, with 31 per cent highly skilled and only 16 per cent unskilled.

Apartheid's second and dangerous legacy is that the black people saw the first majority elections as a victory which would rapidly raise their standard of living towards that of the whites. Expectations were much too high. The economy was in a disastrous condition, much like that of the defeated European nations after 1945. The ending of apartheid presented South Africa with at least as great a challenge as Russia confronted at the end of Communism.

The new South African Government, which has now been in power for two years, has not responded to the real needs of this situation. Pro-black "affirmative action" may have been inevitable, but it has replaced technically competent white managers with under-skilled black managers, right up to board level. The Government does not set itself high standards of efficiency. One report states that 23 per cent of all ministerial meetings have to be cancelled because the minister fails to turn up. President Mandela himself is the father of his country, but he is, not surprisingly, often remote from the executive and administrative decisions. As President he is more like the non-executive chairman than the chief executive of his country. There is no effective chief executive. He is also excessively loyal to his ANC com-

William  
Rees-Mogg



rier and Chang, all of whom were beaten in the first round. He also rated the French Open champion, Yevgeny Kafelnikov, beaten by Britain's Tim Henman. Amis's column yesterday contained no predictions, nor any apologies.

### Wren's nest

TOBY JESSEL has Sir Christopher Wren at his house in Hampton Court. The Tory MP for Wimbledon lives where the great architect died in 1723, and his ghost is haunting the place. In a friendly sort of way.

The spirit seems to have kept out of the way of Jessel himself, a man my colleague Matthew Parris believes should replace tear-gas and water-cannon to counter riots, because he is so noisy. But his wife Elira says she has seen it. "I feel

diffident about talking about it as people think I'm potty, but it was so powerful I have to acknowledge it," she says. "He stood there smiling and there was a voice speaking all around me saying 'I like your singing and you are very welcome in my house.' I had an extraordinary feeling of joy and happiness."

● A burly guard has been posted in front of Madame Tussaud's Jürgen Klinsmann warwork in case the flighty German footballer falls victim to English fans.

### Deadly jewel

EVEN the finest art dealers had to endure the cultural adjustment to football last night. Dukes and duchesses were glued to screens like the best beer-swillers when Spink & Sons, an outfit with a pedigree stretching back to 1666, threw a party for its new jewellery store. Against the old guard's wishes, Spink's had to bring in television for fear that customers such as the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, Lord and Lady Astor and Sally Burton would insist on the football. I understand that one peer demanded beer instead of champagne, better to capture the Wembley atmosphere.

P.H.S



Sally Burton: invited to Spink's to celebrate with the boys

## China's great wall of steel

A war of religion is  
looming, says

Jonathan Mirsky

To the West, it is baffling that a harmless resolution by the Bundestag condemning human rights violations in Tibet should have soured Bonn's relations with Peking, which has cancelled a visit by the Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel. Nor does the Dalai Lama's visit to Germany explain Peking's reaction. The solution lies in the overwhelming importance China attaches to its vast Tibetan and Muslim regions.

Herr Kinkel's China-watchers had probably already drawn his attention to recent lethal pronouncements from China's western frontiers, which are on perpetual red-alert: "The struggle is a long-term, bitter, complex you-die-I-live battle with no possibility of compromise... We must crush the arrogance of enemy elements. We must destroy the soil from which they take nourishment."

This is the language of the Cultural Revolution and the Tiananmen killings; it must be taken literally. This time, however, it is not aimed at political dissidents but at Muslims and Buddhists in Xinjiang and Tibet, regions inhabited by fewer than 20 million people, a drop in China's vast sea of 1.2 billion people, but taking up almost half its land mass.

For two months Peking has been focusing its attention on Xinjiang and Tibet. Officials in Xinjiang have called for a "Great Wall of Steel" to curb the ambitions of "splittists". This phrase was last used by Deng Xiaoping on June 9, 1989, when he congratulated the army's senior commanders for crushing the Tiananmen uprising by serving as a Great Wall of Steel. Splittism is also the fear in Tibet. "Prevention and eradication of the terrorist destructive activities of hostile forces," the *Tibet Daily* warned recently, "is the new task of the struggle against splittism."

Superficially, Peking seems, as the Chinese say, to be "dropping a stone on its own feet" by provoking international outrage from Muslims and the millions for whom Tibet is an icon. Things are not going badly for China. It has weathered the failure of its clumsy bullying of Taiwan in March. Everyone has welcomed its far from water-tight agreement to stop nuclear testing. It is getting its way in Hong Kong, and has signed treaties with Russia and three bordering states. Most dissidents are either in exile or under lock and key.

So why the Wall of Steel? Why guarantee opposition by tearing down pictures of the Dalai Lama in monasteries where they have been allowed for over ten years?

Every country's leaders have nightmares. Behind the vermilion walls of the Forbidden City, the dreams that troubled the sleep of Chinese emperors still disturb the Communist Party's leaders. These include official corruption, an uneasy peasantry and an all-powerful ruler who is dying. But restive "minorities" along the western and northwestern frontiers are especially frightening. In the 8th century, Tibetan cavalrymen sacked the capital of the Tang, the greatest dynasty in Chinese history. Mongols and Manchus horsemen swept out of the Steppes in the 13th and 17th centuries, establishing the Yuan and Qing dynasties.

Even today Chinese learn two conflicting things about the Mongols and the Manchus. They were "barbarians" who ruled the Central Kingdom with great cruelty for about 500 years, before being overthrown by the real Chinese, the Han. But the borders established by those barbarian rulers, extending to the western edges of Xinjiang and Tibet, are shown on today's maps as China's legitimate frontiers. Officially, their peoples are members of the Chinese "great family" — though in practice Uighurs and Tibetans are often seen as ungrateful, rebellious minorities.

Why is Peking cracking down on Xinjiang and Tibet now? In April, President Jiang agreed with Russia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan on a policy to crush fundamentalism. Xinjiang's Muslims, who are not fundamentalists, instantly defied this concordat. In China, religious defiance, or "splittism", is always a popular target. All religious groups in China have been ordered to submit to tighter central control. The *Xinjiang Daily* warned that "freedom of religious belief is not freedom of religion", and made clear Peking's unwavering priority: "Only under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and by following the socialist road can the various peoples of Xinjiang have a bright future."

In Tibet, where Chinese repression has continued since 1950, there is now a more cosmic dilemma for Peking: there too the Party comes before God. Eventually, the 14th Dalai Lama, born in 1935, will die. A 15th incarnation will need to be discovered and sanctioned. This process, which can take three years, is traditionally overseen by Tibet's second holiest personage, the Panchen Lama. Peking last year kidnapped the Panchen approved by the Dalai Lama; he has since vanished. Peking then "discovered" its own six-year-old "soul child". President Jiang has personally lectured the young impostor on his duty to the Party. Last month, Mr Jiang, with uncharacteristic irony, inscribed a plaque for the pseudo-Panchen's monastery: "Safeguard the country and benefit the people."

## Auf wiedersehen

MORE developments from the Daily Mirror bunker, where that fine young Editor Piers "Guten" Morgan is now under siege not just from readers but from his management after the paper's front-page declaration of football war on Germany.

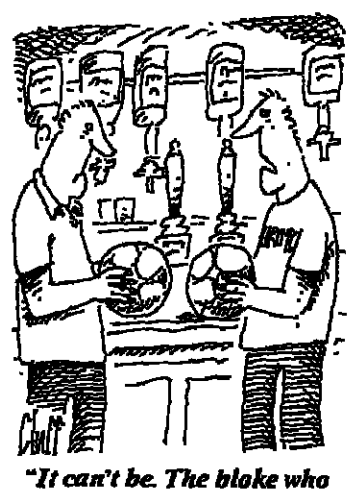
The Mirror Group's share price slipped early yesterday on news that advertisers were pulling out in protest at the paper's xenophobic coverage of the Euro 96 football championship. And despite a rally later in the day, staff at the paper reported that Guten's survival was hanging on the outcome of the England-Germany match.

The police won't look kindly on him if he loses and there are riots afterwards," said one journalist before the game. "There has been talk of a prosecution for inciting racial hatred."

Guten was said to be twitchier than a bagful of German weasels as he watched the game at the office last night. He referred questions about his tenure to the management, and to add to his woes there is now concern for his health. For while batting at a cricket match on Sunday, he top-edged a short ball on to the side of

his head and promptly called for a helmet. Two balls later, according to a letter in *The Guardian*, he lost his off stump. "He took no further part in the match... I feel sure that his rational view of Euro 96 has been affected by the blow," asserts the correspondent.

● Dudley Moore, Jean-Claude Van Damme and Elizabeth Taylor



"It can't be. The bloke who sold me this said it was the one they played with"

have announced their latest divorces. Between them they have notched up 15 failed marriages: four each to the men and seven to the lady. That's Hollywood.

### Mooded point

BELATED Happy Birthday to our Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, who was 50 on the day he finalised the Florence beef deal. He was greeted with a hernia-inducing rendition of "Happy Birthday" by fellow delegates, who are clubbing together to buy a recording by an ugly pop group, Poor Cow. Its songs *Sick and Tired of the B's* and *Scare* have been deemed an appropriate gift for Rifkind, not least for the snatches of Douglas Hogg rapping on about the "selective cull restriction policy" above a chorus of moos.

### Court out

MARTIN AMIS has been told to sharpen up his game, because his first service as Wimbledon reporter for the *London Evening Standard* wasn't up to scratch. I understand that senior executives on the paper have described his first report as "too technical".

He predicted that the stars of the tournament would be Agassi, Cou-

## BRIEF LI

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**VERONICA GUERIN**

talking about here is children."



## Bad PR adds to fear of flying

The worried reactions of passengers on being told that their aircraft had developed a number of technical faults proves yet again just how scared people are of flying.

Irrational though their fears may have been, within the past week three groups of British holidaymakers refused to get on board jets which they had been assured were serviceable.

Passengers on Excalibur Airways demanded that the airline charter another jet to take them to Florida after becoming convinced that the original DC10 was "jinxed" and the resulting publicity was so bad that last night the airline was forced into liquidation. A group of Virgin



The Travel Business  
HARVEY ELLIOTT

Atlantic passengers were equally alarmed when they were delayed for more than 48 hours by a series of faults on their Boeing 747 jumbo jet at San Francisco.

Problems can become exaggerated with reports of a pilot having "slammed on the brakes" when, in fact, he abandoned a take-off perfectly safely; of jet fuel fumes apparently "choking" passengers; and of normal condensation drips proving that the fuselage was "leaking".

But they must be properly addressed — and above all they must never be allowed to persuade pilots to ignore technical problems, however minor, in an attempt to prevent a public relations difficulty.

As the summer peak holiday season gets under way mechanical failures are inevitable, especially as charter airlines are using their jets to the maximum. Fortunately pilots carry out intense pre-flight checks and do not take risks with safety.

That means that it is sometimes necessary for aircraft to be delayed so that engineers can investigate the cause of a pilot's unease or for a part to be replaced.

Generally the bigger the airline the more able it will be to minimise any such delays by juggling its fleet and crews to provide replacements, or by leasing a spare aircraft.

Small airlines rarely have such spare capacity. Often their entire fleet is dispersed over thousands of miles. But this does not mean they are intrinsically any less safe or more prone to mechanical defects than their bigger rivals. Their fleets are maintained by the same engineers in the same hangars as the bigger airlines. And they are all watched over by inspectors from the Civil Aviation Authority.

The real potential for trouble comes when marketing men try to avoid having to explain to angry passengers why they are being delayed. Ideally, perhaps, there should always be a spare aircraft ready to operate services which might have run into technical difficulties. But economically that is unrealistic. Instead passengers must try to be patient.

When travelling by air it must surely be a better thing to arrive than to travel hopefully.

## Holiday bookings start to pick up

By STEVE KEENAN

HOLIDAY sales in May outstripped last year's month on month figures for the first time this season as families have now started booking for the summer. Chris Rees, commercial manager for Thomas Cook, said: "Families are leaving it later to book this year's holiday."

More than 784,500 package holidays were sold in May, compared to 746,270 in the same month last year, according to industry research analysts. But overall the market is still 10 per cent down year on year.

Of the 8.5 million package holidays on sale for this summer, 5.9 million had been sold by the end of May. Peak-season holidays are now largely selling at brochure prices, with cheap deals available mainly for June or early July.

The best of the few bargains expected for school holidays will be to the Greek Islands, Cyprus and France, where

sales are still running below 1995 levels, despite fewer holidays being available.

Cuts of 1.5 million packages were made earlier this year by tour operators, but most of them were to Spain and its islands, where demand is now running in line with capacity.

Mr Rees said: "After the sluggish start to the season, there has been a steady increase in bookings since Easter. If it continues, we would expect Spain to finish on a par with last summer."

The new maturity among tour operators and the resurgence in appeal of Mediterranean package holidays this year has encouraged Thomas Cook to re-enter the market after an absence of six years.

The company will announce next week that it has bought package holiday specialist Sunworld, Britain's fifth biggest tour operator, which it will operate alongside its own long-haul brochures.

TOP SELLERS FOR SUMMER 1996		
	Sales to date	Compared with 1995 (% to end May)
1 Balearic Islands	1,125,000	-15
2 Mediterranean Spain	858,500	-11
3 Greek Islands	643,500	-25
4 Canary Islands	532,000	-17
5 Turkey	465,000	+3
6 Florida	324,000	+21
7 Italy	282,500	+8
8 France	236,000	-25
9 Portugal	233,500	-18
10 Cyprus	219,000	-25

Package holidays Source: State MPA

## Haiti returns to the package business

By TONY DAWE

HAITI, the country associated for so long with "Papa Doc" Duvalier and his feared Tonton Macoutes, is back on the tourism map.

Within four months of being democratically elected as head of state, President René Préval has met officials of the Caribbean tourism and hotel organisations and a tourism master plan has been drawn up.

Large hotels in and around Port-au-Prince, the capital, are fit and ready to take visitors, having been kept in business by UN officials and aid workers in recent months. Smaller hotels and a Club Méditerranée are gearing up, and American Airlines is keen to help to enlarge facilities at the main airport.

The meetings with President Préval were among the most productive conferences we have ever had with government officials. John Bell, vice-president of the Caribbean Hotels Association, said: "It is also encouraging to see Haiti's public and private tourism sectors working together on the implementation of the tourism plan."

Michael Youngman, the marketing director of the Caribbean Tourism Organisation, said: "We have started carrying information about Haiti again in literature distributed to the travel trade and consumers. We are including the country in our seminars and educational presentations and our public relations programme on both sides of the Atlantic will include Haiti. We are bringing the country out into the light again."

The country attracted more than 200,000 tourists, mostly from the United States, ten years ago, but the numbers have fallen dramatically during the years of troubles while the Dominican Republic, separated from Haiti by a mountain range, has boomed. Haiti has the largest inventory of hotel rooms in the Caribbean and offers mostly beach and resort holidays to package tourists from North America, Germany, Italy and, increasingly, Britain.

The Caribbean tourist board is concentrating on showing off Haiti's culture, history and arts and crafts. "Even from a geographical point of view, it is unique," Mr Youngman said. "If you head north from Port-au-Prince by road, you pass through villages reminiscent of West Africa and then across a plain where the water buffaloes and rice paddies remind you of Asia, while the mountains in the north have an Andean charm."



Now that flights have resumed to Croatia, Dubrovnik, one of Europe's most handsome cities, hopes to win back the tourists

## Croatia back on the tourist map

By MARTIN SYMINGTON

CROATIA'S struggling tourist industry has received an important fillip from the London-based European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). A loan of more than £20 million will help finance the upgrading of hotels, marinas, camp sites and other facilities.

Mare Magall of the EBRD explained: "Though direct war damage was limited, the use of hotels to house refugees has left these facilities in desperate need of repair. The loan signals to the international markets that Croatian tourism is open for business."

With charter flights from UK airports now serving Pula, Split and Dubrovnik,

10,000 British holidaymakers are expected to visit Croatia on inclusive package holidays this year, according to Jose Loez of the Croatia National Tourist Office in London. However, the road back to the pre-war days when up to half a million Britons a year basked on Yugoslav beaches, the great majority in present-day Croatia, looks a long one.

Mr Loez said "Croatia desperately needs investment after four years of total stagnation. Tourism is crucially important to the country, so this loan is very welcome, although we hope it will be expanded. The problem is that negative perceptions linger, and the return of the British is proving to be slow."

The majority of holidaymakers in Croatia are Germans, Austrians and Italians who drive to resorts such as Porec in the north of the country. Further south, the historic city of Dubrovnik is far more dependent on the air charters, and hence the British market.

Specialist operator Phoenix Holidays is the only UK company offering a full range of Croatian resorts, but unconfirmed reports in the travel trade suggest that leading operators are set to include Croatia in their 1997 brochures.

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## Colonel to the rescue

TWO contrasting expeditions later this year, both being led by John Blashford-Snell, the explorer and retired Army colonel, are seeking eco-tourists. The Scientific Exploration Society is organising the missions to help a native tribe living on the border of Guyana and Brazil, and to develop tourism at a famous site 9,000ft up an Ethiopian plateau.

Col Blashford-Snell still needs more expert helpers for the expedition, which leaves Britain on August 17.

The mission to Ethiopia in October to provide an eco-tourism guide to the Magdala area, scene of a battle between Britain and Abyssinia in 1868, also needs more helpers.

Scientific Exploration Society Expedition Base, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 9PB.

## From Russia...

THE RUSSIANS are developing a taste for foreign travel and within the past five years have become some of Europe's most prolific holidaymakers. A new survey by European Travel Monitor of Munich shows that travellers from Russia, the Ukraine and Belarus last year took 33 million trips abroad, about the same number as those from France and The Netherlands.

## Quick visa

FROM October, travellers from the UK will be able to receive an Australian visa instantly when they book their flights. Visa stamps are to be replaced by an electronic system working through travel agents and airlines.

## Bye bye boards

ONE of England's 11 remaining regional tourist boards is to be dissolved, and its duties shared by two neighbouring boards. The East Midlands region is to be divided between the existing East Anglia and Heart of England boards. The move is intended to reduce bureaucracy and save money after government funding cuts. But holidaymakers may find local information harder to obtain. And hotels and tourist attractions may refuse to support the new look regional boards.

## Easy money?

TRAVELLERS' cheques are about to be challenged by a new brainwave, the holiday credit card. The Royal Bank of Scotland has launched a pilot scheme for what it calls an electronic Travellers' Cheque or Visa Travel/Money Card.

Holidaymakers load between £100 and £5,000 onto an electronic card and can then withdraw cash 24 hours a day in local currencies from a global network of 270,000 machines at Visa outlets in 95 countries.

## Themed marketing as Disney goes to town

By DAVID CHURCHILL

EURO DISNEY is planning to develop a new town on the edge of its Disneyland Paris theme park resort which will contain houses and flats for at least 1,500 residents, a giant shopping mall, offices, a business park and a campus for the nearby university.

Disney has already started development work on the new town, to be called Val d'Europe, and is making presentations to business investors to finance the scheme. The projected cost of Val d'Europe, scheduled to open its first phase by 2000, is about five billion francs (£640 million) but because of its fragile

financial state, Euro Disney is expected to invest only about Fr100 million (£13 million).

Philippe Bourguignon, chairman of Euro Disney, says the new town "will be an important feature of the future development of the region and the success of the theme park resort in the next century."

Val d'Europe is similar in concept to the new town called Celebration which Disney is building close to its theme park in Florida. Celebration, on 5,000 acres of land, is eventually planned to have a population of 20,000 when the final phases are completed in 2016. It has been criticised, however, for adopting too strict criteria for potential residents, who will have to conform to the Disney image.

Euro Disney is not saying at present whether or not its residents at Val d'Europe will have to adhere to certain standards before being allowed to buy or rent property. Its investment literature talks only of creating "a positive tension between the resort destination and the real town."

Meanwhile Euro Disney, which is now marketed under the name of Disneyland Paris, will launch its direct Eurostar train service from London

Waterloo to the heart of the theme park resort at Marne-La-Vallée this Saturday. There will be a daily train service until September 29 priced at £139 return a person, including one night's accommodation and a pass to the theme park. Details: 0990 030303.

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Hopper, for the 10, told the tribunal that Bew, 38, a partner, acknowledging his liability is given a suspended sentence for furnishing false evidence. He is the mastermind in the "fraudulent affairs". The jury partners, Junison and Elliot, "nominally equals" was effectively the director. Mr Hopper three simply "rubbed" decisions made and were "in ignorance of the dishonesty that place."

undered £8 million into simply to keep the firm afloat. In 1992, "The professor" have to bear these costs. Mr Hopper said.

reversion, chairman simply not accept solicitors to close the plant as rubber stamp before the whistle.

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Talking about the  
children."



## NEWS

## Tory support hits three-year peak

■ England's Euro 96 victory over Spain last Saturday was followed by a sharp rise in support for the Conservatives to the highest level for more than three years, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*.

The poll, undertaken over last weekend, puts the Tories on 31 per cent, up four points on last month. Labour has slipped two points to 52 per cent. Page 1

## All quiet on the West End front

■ England's rush-hour streets and railway stations emptied into pubs and living rooms last night as an estimated 20 million viewers gathered in front of their televisions to watch the Euro 96 semi-final. By 7.30pm, a relative calm descended on the main thoroughfares of London, punctuated by shouts and cheers from pubs packed with workers. Page 1

## Journalist killed

An Irish woman journalist investigating drug barons was killed in a gangland-style execution. Veronica Guerin, 33, was an award-winning reporter. Pages 1, 2, 21

## £1.75m reward

Saudi Arabia offered an unprecedented reward of £1.75 million for information leading to the capture of terrorists responsible for the lorry bomb. Pages 1, 12, 13

## Labour shift

In a dramatic shift in Labour's current policy on devolution, the party will pledge today to let the people decide if they want a Scottish Parliament and if it should have tax-raising powers. Page 2

## Portillo's dilemma

Michael Portillo was facing one of his toughest challenges since becoming Defence Secretary as he tried to persuade sceptical Tory backbenchers to support his plan to sell off 60,000 service married quarters. Page 2

## Family's outrage

The family of a rookie police officer whose career was cut short by a Jamaican gunman, was outraged that his killer was found not guilty of murder. Page 3

## Tube strike

London commuters face disruption today as striking Underground train drivers threaten to bring the Tube network to a standstill. Page 5

## French dig up old bones in beef war

■ The French press has uncovered a report by Victor Hugo, the 19th-century author, describing how Britain used human and animal remains from Napoleonic battlefields to nourish its cattle. *Le Canard Enchaîné* declared: "If English cattle have turned mad, the cause is historical; the cows were nourished on flour made from old soldiers and warhorses." Page 12

## Poorer cousin

A survey of trends in the expanded Europe of 15 states shows most of Britain is poorer than the rest of the European Union. Only the South-East and East Anglia are better off. Page 7

## Doctors' fears

The BMA issued a warning that records of patients stored on a NHS computer network could be obtained by insurance companies and employers because security is so lax. Page 8

## Veterans' claim

After a 16-year campaign, 14,000 PoWs who claim they lost pay during the Second World War have won a first review of their cases. They believe they are owed as much as £90 million. Page 9

## Arab anger

Warren Christopher was the target of Arab scorn when he arrived in Cairo having failed to secure any major concessions from Israel's new leader. Page 13

## Honest Lebed

Unlike many Russian generals who have made a fortune, General Aleksandr Lebed, Russia's new security chief, is seen as an honest man. Page 12

## US official quits

Hearings into "Filegate" opened with a flourish in Capitol Hill when the White House official most responsible announced his resignation. Page 15



The Prince of Wales stands on the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland while the Royal Yacht Britannia lies off shore. Report, page 3

## SPORT

**Charges:** Insider dealing charges have been brought against the former director of strategy at Eastern Group, the largest regional electricity company. Page 25

**Petrol:** The Office of Fair Trading has turned down pleas from independent petrol retailers for an investigation into Esso's "Price-watch" campaign. Page 25

**Flotation:** British Energy, the nuclear power generator, could be priced as cheaply as £1.26 billion when it floats off on the stockmarket. Page 25

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 Index rose 16.0 points to close at 3695.5. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 86.0 to 85.9 after a rise from \$1.5408 to \$1.5426 but a fall from DM2.3600 to DM2.3579. Page 28

## FOOTBALL

**Football:** Miroslav Kadelec scored the penalty which gave the Czech Republic a 6-5 victory over France in the European championship after the match had ended 0-0 after extra-time. Page 45

**Tennis:** Monica Seles, the No 2 seed, became the latest leading player to make an early exit from Wimbledon when she was beaten 7-5, 5-7, 6-4 by Katarina Stutenkova, of Slovakia, in the second round of the women's singles. Page 40

**Crickets:** Middlesex have cancelled the contract of Dion Nash, their overseas player, after a series of specialists failed to identify the cause of a back injury. He will return to New Zealand for prolonged rest. Page 42

## ARTS

**Screen passion:** New films include the latest from the British director Philip Ridley, a bizarre fantasy called *The Passion of Darkly Noon*; and Jon Bon Jovi in *Moonlight and Valentino*. Page 36

**Epic staging:** A production of *War and Peace* has gone on stage at the National Theatre. "It lasts from 6.30pm to 11pm, but time passes in an enjoyable twinkling." Benedict Nightingale writes. Page 38

**Authentic Smetana:** The City of London Festival has opened with a "period instrument" performance of Smetana's orchestral cycle *Ma vlast*. Page 38

**Bausch in Paris:** Pina Bausch, the great German choreographer, appears in her latest work, premiered last week in Paris. Page 38

## FEATURES

**Eton's ousting:** Was Anthony Chenevix-Trench fired as headmaster because he indulged in the cane and the bottle? Page 17

**Fighting cancer:** A Sixties model is inspiring other sufferers not to give in to terminal myeloma. Page 16

**Dr Thomas Stuttaford:** on the example set by Lord Denning, now 97, who has made his own home safe for frail limbs and intends to stay put. Page 16

**Past greats:** Peter Stothard on Caesar's attempt at European union; John Gummer on great people; Peter Ackroyd on Matthew Arnold; Jeanette Winterson admires Picasso's changing faces. Pages 34, 35

**Fear of flying:** Passengers should not be too worried when they are held up by a fault in an aircraft, says Harvey Elliott. Pages 22, 23

**His pact with the Basque Nationalists:** means that José María Aznar can now rely on the support of the principal nationalist groups in his investiture as Prime Minister. There could soon also be a stable alliance of the entire Centre-Right, a development without precedent in Spanish politics. — *El País*

## TOMORROW

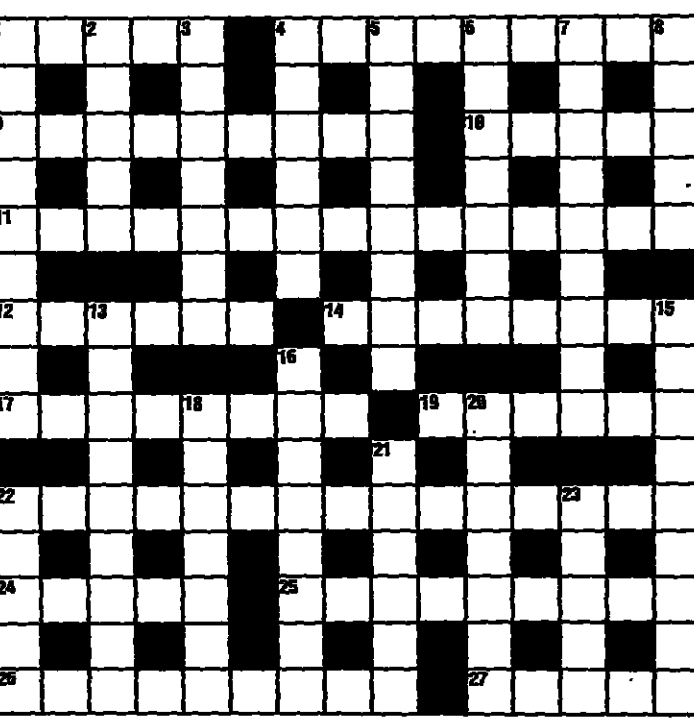
## IN THE TIMES

■ **WHO'S NEXT**  
Paul Sexton meets Roger Daltrey (left) as the *Who* prepare to stage *Quadrophonia* in Hyde Park

■ **EDUCATION**  
Still time to go to university: a guide to vacancies this autumn



## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,205



- ACROSS**
- Only part of an orchestra's ready (5).
  - Irritating translation of NT Epistle (9).
  - Referring to names on circular letter, by gum (9).
  - Left leg in wader (8, 7).
  - Words used by Israeli ambassador encountering plot (6).
  - Left leg in wader (8, 7).
  - Sauce for covering carcass (8).
  - Burn well (6).
  - Take to an appreciative audience very quickly (4, 3, 8).
  - Golf club's first lost near a place in India (5).
  - Could platonic arrangement with maiden be agreeable? (9).
- DOWN**
- Overcome by passion, she would murder (9).
  - A kid brought up to be unfriendly (5).
  - Irish boozier says this ale isn't drunk (7).
  - Nice way to describe the little woman! (6).
  - Philosopher's note about values (8).
  - Drive up motorway, upset after crash (7).
  - Reorganise ancient English university, say (9).
  - Subject matter originally included by you, now out of date (5).
  - Failure to provide analysis (9).
  - Suffering trauma? Ask for a book about it (4, 5).
  - Give a better price than what butcher may offer (8).
  - Place in plot where Greek character turns up (7).
  - Dotty artist losing head - he drinks a lot (7).
  - Through eating fruit, achieves goodness! (6).
  - Love to go round on a horse (3, 2).
  - Religious books are exalting god-sees (5).

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,204**

MUTABLE POTHEIR  
CONVULSION  
NANA  
UPEND BEVELLING  
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AUTOBIOGRAPHIC  
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## AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=brilliant; c=cloud; d=dreizzle; ds=drizzle; sun=sun; sun+cl=sun & cloud; g=gale; h=hail; rain; sh=show; sh+cl=show & cloud; s=sun; s+cl=sun & cloud; w=wind; w+cl=wind & cloud.

London & SE England: 701  
East of London: 702  
Kent, Surrey, Sussex: 703  
Dorset, Devon & Cornwall: 704  
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset: 705  
Berkshire, Oxfordshire: 706  
Bucks, Herts & Essex: 707  
Northants, Cambs: 708  
West Mid & Shropshire: 709  
Shropshire, Hereford & Wores: 710  
Central Midlands: 711  
East Midlands: 712  
Lincoln & Humberside: 713  
Derby & Leicestershire: 714  
North Wales: 715  
Wales & Wales: 716  
N.E. England: 717  
Cumbria & Lake District: 718  
S.W. England: 719  
W. Central Scotland: 720  
Edinburgh & Borders: 721  
N.E. Scotland: 722  
Glasgow & E. Highlands: 723  
South Wales: 724  
Cardiff, Swansea & Glamorgan: 725  
N. Ireland: 726

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